

NO. 7244

MONDAY, MAY 9, 1988

RAMADAN 23, 1408 AH

ARAB TIMES

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Bombs similar

POLICE suspect pro-Iranian terrorists might have planted the bomb at a parking lot in Kuwait City, that on Saturday wrecked the offices of a US car hire firm. One police official said the explosive device appeared to be of a similar make to a bomb which ripped through the Kuwaiti offices of Saudi Arabian Airlines, Saudi, last week. "At first glance both explosive devices appear similar," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said.

He said it was possible a pro-Iranian group was responsible. "This is the strongest possibility," the official said in answer to a question.

Iran has strained relations with both the United States and Saudi Arabia.

The US Navy attacked two Iranian oil platforms in the Gulf last month after a mine damaged a US warship.

And Saudi Arabia broke off diplomatic relations with Iran last week, sparking fury in Tehran.

The explosion on Saturday rocked a multi-storey parking lot in downtown Kuwait City, wrecking the office of the US car hire firm Avis and causing extensive damage to adjacent buildings.

Marshall Plan

WASHINGTON, May 8. (AP): The United States is moving towards the announcement of a multibillion-dollar international aid programme to help the beleaguered government of Philippines President Corazon Aquino, a US official has said.

The programme, which has been likened by congressional proponents to the 1947 Marshall Plan that rescued West Europe after World War II, could lead to an international appeal for \$10 billion over the next five years.

Arab summit

ALGIERS, May 8. (AP): A special Arab League summit to discuss the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will take place on June 7 in Algiers.

ARAB TIMES Grand Bingo
NUMBERS for Game No. 64 appear on Page 2.

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ان کارروں صفحات میں

کرایج میں گروپی
نیاداں، نیشن میں سعی
جھوٹی، مرد اڑاہلک
بلان میں مخابر نیشن
کے دریان ہلاک ہوئے
والوں کی تحرادہ ہو گئی
کمک انتہا پسند کے
جلوں میں ۲۲۳ افزادہ موت کے
کھٹکت میں ہلکی چینگ کے
ٹرموں کے سارے صفات کی
تجزیے

Imran
Hm

3.22am

6.30pm

Kuwait to enact tough anti-air piracy law

Death for hijacking

KUWAIT, target of a bloody 16-day hijacking last month, will soon introduce a law that punishes hijackers with death, a senior official has said.

Minister of State for Services Affairs Issa Mohammed Al Mazidi told a Kuwaiti daily that under the proposed law killing or wounding passengers on a plane, causing damage to a plane or airport installations, carried the death sentence.

Necessary

The law will apply to Kuwaiti airways and foreign carriers using Kuwait International Airport, he said.

A Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 was hijacked on April 5 on a flight from Bangkok to Kuwait and forced to land in Iran by

Arab gunmen demanding the release of pro-Iranian militants from Kuwaiti jails.

After killing two Kuwaiti passengers at the second stop in Larnaca, Cyprus, they released their remaining hostages in Algiers on April 20 in exchange for their own freedom.

Mazidi said such a tough law has become extremely necessary due to the increase in air piracy in recent years.

Recalling the ordeal when the Kuwaiti airline Al Jaberia was at Larnaca airport, Mazidi said there were no direct negotiations between the Kuwaiti delegation and the hijackers, adding that Cypriot authorities held the death sentence.

Asked if the Civil Aviation Department will take measures to prevent any smuggling of arms aboard planes while at Kuwait airport, the minister said that all loopholes have been taken care of and "I don't believe there is anyone who can penetrate our security measures."

Demand

Asked if the Civil Aviation Department will take measures to prevent any smuggling of arms aboard planes while at Kuwait airport, the minister said that all loopholes have been taken care of and "I don't believe there is anyone who can penetrate our security measures."

King Hussein of Jordan, meanwhile, vowed again to make peace with Israel only in the framework of an international conference as a partner with the Palestinians, and said without a solution the Israeli-occupied territories are headed for "real disaster."

Hussein said that the Middle East peace process is "still alive" although there are many obstacles in its way.

Talks

"Obstacles facing the Middle

East peace process are too numerous," he said, telling a group of foreign journalists in Amman. "But it is still alive and we hope it will continue," he said.

Jordanian and senior PLO officials held fresh talks yesterday in Amman, on the Middle East peace efforts and developments.

In another development, a PLO official arrived in Cairo yesterday to brief officials on the PLO's improved ties with Syria, Palestinian sources said.

Pressure

Israel radio said the appeal was issued after Awad conferred with his attorneys who visited him in a Jerusalem jail, where he has been on hunger strike since his arrest.

The radio said Awad had been under pressure from PLO supporters against appealing to the Israeli court for fear of setting a precedent in such cases.

The Jerusalem-born Awad heads the Centre for Non-violent Studies in Jerusalem.

France goes to polls for presidential runoff

PARIS, May 8. (UPI): France went to the polls for final round of presidential elections today to judge underdog French Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac's, tough challenge to French President, Francois Mitterrand, for control of the Elysee Palace.

Polling stations opened to the 38.32 million voters at 8am (0600 GMT) and were to close by 8 pm (1800 GMT).

At 12 noon (1000 GMT) 28.5 per cent of the French electorate had turned out to vote. That was well below 30.22 per cent registered at the same time in the previous election of 1981, starting off fears of widespread abstentions.

Violence marred polling in Paris. Scores of masked leftists brandishing iron bars attacked right-wing demonstrators supporting National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, injuring eight people. In the Pacific territory of New Caledonia, Melanesian separatists threw up roadblocks and torched a bus used by voters, wounding the driver with shotgun pellets.

In the first round of election on April 24, the socialist Mitterrand, 71, was endorsed as favourite with 34.1 percent of the votes.

The official Iranian news agency described him as "one of the best candidates."

the youngest commanders in the Islamic Republic Armed Forces" and said he had served as a deputy chief of staff for the past four years.

In the Gulf, US and Iranian Navy ships glided silently past each other in dangerous "Silkworm alley" yesterday in their closest encounter since the April 13 naval battle.

The 3,700-tonne frigate Jack Williams spotted the Bushehr, a 354-foot (118 metre) supply boat, early in the morning after the Williams passed through the tense Strait of Hormuz twice in less than 24 hours.

The two ships sailed within about 2,500 yards (metres) of each other on opposite courses in the rolling blue seas about 20 miles east of Abu Musa, a heavily fortified island where Iran maintains a gumbat base and an air field.

Neither side blinked.

Iraq said its warplanes hit two naval targets at Iran's Lavan island terminal in the southern Gulf today.

A Baghdad war spokesman said the jets scored effective strikes on a large naval target and a medium-size one, Iraqi codes for tankers or cargo ships, close to the loading jetty at Lavan terminal.

NICOSIA, May 8. (Agencies): Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini has appointed Brig. Gen. Ali Shahbazi, a relatively young man with a background in guerrilla warfare, as chief of staff of the armed forces.

Tehran Radio monitored in Cyprus, said the 42-year-old Shahbazi replaced Brig. Gen. Ismael Sohrabi, who was appointed in October 1984.

The radio did not say why Khomeini ordered the replacement of Sohrabi, but it quoted him as thanking the outgoing officer for his efforts and asking him to remain as a military consultant to the government.

Iran's armed forces have been severely jolted by the loss of Iraq's Faw peninsula, retaken by Baghdad's forces on April 18, and by a confrontation with US forces in the Gulf the same day that left two Iranian oil platforms destroyed, a patrol boat sunk and three other ships and two frigates crippled.

Khomeini, in a decree appointing Shahbazi, said the appointment had been made considering the officer's "religious and revolutionary commitments."

The official Iranian news agency described him as "one of the best candidates."



Mazidi: need

Sikh extremists kill 23

Wedding party massacre

CHANDIGARH, India, May 8. (UPI): Sikh extremists disguised as police today poured gunfire into a crowd of Hindus celebrating a wedding at a transient labour camp in northern Haryana state, killing at least 13 persons and wounding 25 others, police said.

They said two Sikhs — distinguished by their turbans and beards — and a clean-shaven man drove up to the camp on motorcycles as the occupants were celebrating a wedding and opened fire with submachine guns.

At least 13 people, including an undisclosed number of women and children, were killed and 25 others were wounded. Five of the injured were hospitalized in critical condition, police said.

The assailants, all of whom were wearing police uniforms, escaped on their motorcycles. Haryana Home Secretary R.G. Gupta, said a security alert was sounded across the state and

additional police deployed in a hunt for the gunmen. There were no further details. Extremists today shot dead a farmer in a village in Punjab's Jullunder district, police said.

The attackers then went to a neighbouring village where they shot dead a Sikh priest and another man in a temple.

Four members of a family including a five-year-old boy were killed in a village in Punjab's Kapurthala district yesterday. Two labourers employed by the family also died in the attack.

On Friday night, the government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi extended for six more months its control of Punjab under a constitutional provision known as "President's Rule."

New Delhi declared President's Rule last May and sacked the state's moderate Sikh government for failing to contain extremist violence.

DAY BY DAY

WE want the prayers from Makkah to be telecast during the last 10 days of the holy month of Ramadan.

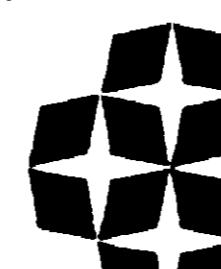
We want these prayers, particularly the ones for the night of Ramadan 27, to be telecast just as football matches from South Korea, India and other parts of the world are televised.

This was strongly recommended by a Kuwaiti citizen, and I am simply transferring this to the Information Minister who is the man to say yes or no.

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INTERNATIONAL

Peres flies to Zurich to meet Soviets

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 8. (AP): Foreign Minister Shimon Peres left unexpectedly today for Zurich, apparently to hold a meeting with Soviet officials en route to a socialist conference in Spain.

A ministry official confirmed that Peres flew out of Israel 12 hours before his scheduled departure to Madrid for a conference of the Socialist International, but would not say where he was headed.

Officials at Ben Gurion International Airport, however, said Peres left on a Swissair flight for Zurich at 7.50 am (0450 GMT).

Peres told Israel television yesterday night that he may meet Soviet officials during his trip and that he hoped to discuss a possible renewal of ties with the Kremlin that were severed after the 1967 Middle East war.

"Yes, there will be contacts and I imagine there will also be contacts with the Soviets," Peres told the television reporter.

"We must make an additional effort to see if we can renew relations with the Soviet Union, and deal with the Jewish issue and see if we can advance the issue of peace," Peres added.

Peres, who heads the left-leaning Labour Party, favours making territorial concessions for peace and supports Arab demands for holding an international peace conference.

Gorbachev faces direct challenge**Soviets form opposition**

MOSCOW, May 8. (UPI): Representatives from across the Soviet Union jammed into a Moscow apartment Saturday to form an opposition party, creating an unprecedented test for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's commitment to democraticisation.

"We define the contents of our activity as political opposition to the present order," said a founding document of "the Democratic Union" distributed at the gathering. It was a direct challenge to the Communist Party.

Scores of secret police were on the surrounding streets and in the halls of the apartment building. At least 20 cars and three buses loaded with KGB police were parked near the apartment.

The whole system of party autocracy has become the main source of the people's troubles during the last 70 years," the statement said in a sweeping condemnation of Soviet rule.

"No one has the right to decide for the people what direction to follow, only the people themselves, according to their sovereign rights, can choose the way on the bases of agreement and free voting," it said.

Police pounded on the door to be admitted, but some of the more than 100 people jammed into the apartment shouted back that they had no right to enter.

Eventually the police gave up and stood quietly outside the door.

A partial list of the participants showed people from Leningrad and Moscow in Russia, Kiev and Donetsk in the Ukraine, and Novosibirsk and Tomsk in Siberia. Speaker after speaker took a turn atop a stool in a stifling hallway.

Reforms

Gorbachev has called for greater democracy in Soviet society as part of his reforms to end the country's economic slide. However, he has always emphasised that the Communist Party will retain its control.

The formation of the Democratic Union will reinforce the fears of conservatives that Gorbachev's reforms are unleashing forces that could threaten the communist control that has existed since the 1917 revolution.

"Freedom is the right to be against," said the Democratic Union statement. "We have been fully deprived of this right since October 1917."

It accused the Communist Party of methodically monopolising control over everything from the economy to the cultural life, bringing the country to material and spiritual poverty.

Those gathered into an apartment — directly across the street from the building housing the government of the Russian Republic — was largely in their 20s and 30s and said they represented groups in cities across the country.

Democracy

"We are united by adherence to the idea of democracy, which is not just a slogan and empty calling for us," the document said, demanding a democratisation far beyond what Gorbachev has advocated.

The Democratic Union document proposed Western-style democracy, with a mixed economy, a multi-party political system, legalisation of opposition newspapers and formation of independent trade unions.

Previous to Gorbachev's liberalisation in the past three years, political activity would have led to swift arrests and lengthy prison terms under laws banning "anti-Soviet agitation." But the heavy police presence demonstrated the continuing unease.

The Democratic Union noted there is no legal guarantee to prevent a return of the previous repression. Although authorities are discussing abolishing some laws used to suppress dissent, the outcome of that debate is not resolved.

Less salt helps patients cut drugs

CHICAGO, May 8. (Reuters): Even a modest reduction of salt in the diet appears to help high blood pressure patients lessen their dependence on anti-hypertension drugs which often have bad side effects, doctors reported on Thursday.

While salt reduction historically has been a tool to combat high blood pressure, such therapy "has become a matter of complacency" in recent years because of the availability of drugs, researchers at Indiana University School of Medicine said.

To test whether lower sodium levels in the diet would help people on drugs, the researchers studied 114 patients over a 30-week period who were able to reduce sodium blood levels by 25 to 35 per cent through the intervention of a nutritionist.

Dosage

For one-third of the patients the sodium reduction was sufficient to allow them to cut the dosage of the drugs they were taking, most often diuretics.

Diuretics, commonly used to treat hypertension by increasing urinary output, have become "a matter of increasing concern and scrutiny," the researchers said in this week's issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.



● Miss Italy, Michela Rocco di Torre-Padula, is crowned Miss Europe at a ceremony held in Ragusa, Sicily. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF**Reviving AIO**

CAIRO, May 8. (UPI): Negotiations aimed at formally reviving the Arab Industrialisation Organisation (AIO) are expected to begin later this month in Cairo, Qatar News Agency reported.

The news agency quoted the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Khaleej as saying that negotiations would begin in the Egyptian capital after Eid-ul-Fitr, the feast following Ramadan.

The AIO, founded in 1975, includes Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE. The first issue the nations' delegates will address, will be unfreezing \$620 deposited in Western banks by the organisation, the newspaper said.

British hostages

LONDON, May 8. (AP): Britain will pursue "all legitimate means" to get missing citizens out of Beirut, Foreign Office Minister David Mellor said today.

In a television interview, Mellor reiterated the British government's refusal to make deals with hostage-takers.

Among the 18 foreigners missing in London are Church of England envoy Terry Waite, who has not been seen since leaving his hotel room on Jan 20, 1987.

Nuclear test

MOSCOW, May 8. (UPI): The Soviet Union today conducted an underground nuclear test on the Barents Sea island of Novaya Zemlya "with the aim of perfecting military technology."

The blast had a yield of between 200 and 150 kilotons (20,000 to 150,000 tons of TNT), the official Tass news agency said.

8 hurt in rally

PARIS, May 8. (AP): Eight people were injured during a right-wing rally in central Paris today when a group of masked men flailing steel bars charged into a large crowd, witnesses said.

The bloody attack occurred as people were gathering on Joan of Arc Day to march to her statue in the Tuilleries Garden. About 40 men, their faces hidden by ski masks or scarves, stormed into a crowd of about 60 people and beat them indiscriminately, a witness said.

Swiss climbers

KATMANDU, Nepal, May 8. (UPI): Three Swiss climbers, including a woman, scaled the 8,163 metres-high Manaslu on May Day, the Ministry of Tourism said.

Ursula Huber, 25, Beda Fuster, 32, and Richard Ott, 26, reached the summit from the south east ridge, the ministry said. They spent 20 minutes on the summit and returned to their camp, the third camp on the day.

Polish strike

GDANSK, May 8. (Reuters): Efforts to end a Solidarity strike at the Lenin Shipyard hung in the balance today after Lech Walesa and the workers stood by their demand for recognition of the outlawed trade union.

The strikers are pressing for reinstatement of Lenin Shipyard workers, fired under martial law in 1981-83, freedom for alleged political prisoners and nationwide legalisation of their outlawed Solidarity union.

Relief operation

KHARTOUM, May 8. (AP): The International Committee of the Red Cross will start a new relief operation to help civilians in war zones in southern Sudan later this month and is contacting both the government and the rebels about safe conduct, an ICRC official says.

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Plan to provide financial incentive to doctors

KUWAIT'S Public Health Minister, Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak, has said that the Institute for Medical Specialisations was one of the most important educational and training institutions in Kuwait. He added that the ministry would further support the development of the institute in the future.

Speaking to a local newspaper, before his departure to Geneva, to attend the World Health Organisation meetings, Dr Al Abdul Razzak said that the development of health services depends on the development of doctors. He added that the ministry was looking at means of providing financial incentives for doctors, in an attempt to keep them in the government sector rather than leaving for private practice.

Promotion
A special committee has been set up to establish the standard for merit promotions, he said, adding that his major concern

was to eliminate promotions based on personal influence.

Dr Al Abdul Razzak, said there were no plans underway to dismiss any of the ministry's current personnel. He also denied that the ministry had any plans to cancel the nursing institute at Sabah Hospital.

He said that the ministry was concerned about the need to utilise the expertise of non-Kuwaiti medical graduates, particularly since they represented some of the top graduates and had the required government hospital experience.

Difficulty

The minister said that expenses for sending patients abroad for treatment had been reduced by half since he assumed his ministerial position. He added that the treatment abroad would only be considered if equal services were unavailable in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, the director of the Kuwait Institute for Medical

Specialisations, Dr Abdullah Al Rifai, has said that the institute is having difficulty in training physicians studying at the institute. "Some clinics do not allow our doctors to change to other clinics for training," he said. He added that the institute's administration was trying to solve this problem with the cooperation of the Health Ministry.

Al Rifai explained that the institute trains in specialisations such as internal medicine, surgery, family medicine, pediatrics and gynaecology. He added that nuclear medicine, laboratory sciences and intensive care courses have been added and that plans are underway to add more specialisations in the near future.

The director said that the institute has a KD 1 million budget which is part of the Health Ministry's budget. He asked that the budget be given more flexibility since the institute did not function like other ministry establishments.

Patients' Fund helped 1,500 people in 1987

THE Director of Kuwait's Patients Fund Tahya Abdullah has said that the fund provided financial aid to about 1,500 persons in 1987 compared to 40 in 1982.

He added that the medical committee at the fund was assisting about 195 families with financial support, medical equipment and supplies.

Abdullah said that the fund extended its services to several countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Jordan, Palestine, Singapore, Sudan and Lebanon for the construction of dental clinics, and medical centres.

Abdullah praised the cooperation between the fund and the Ministry of Public Health which is represented by social workers at the ministry hospitals. He added that patients who need assistance from the fund should apply through the social workers' offices where applications are discussed confidentially by specific medical committees.

Transfer of officials

AN official source at Kuwait's Education Ministry said that the ministry was planning to transfer a number of officials to various departments in the ministry.

In an interview with the Al Moualem Magazine, carried by a local daily, the source said that assistant undersecretaries and a number of educational area directors would not be included in the transfers.

The source said that the changes among headmasters and teachers this year were considered normal and that there were plans to appoint new teachers for the Jahra and Ahmadi educational areas.

Experts to study Dhahar ground depression

SOURCES at Kuwait's National Housing Authority have been quoted as saying that an international team of experts have been invited by the authority to participate in studies to identify the causes of the ground depression in the Dhahar area.

Sources said that a team arriving from the UK would be bringing equipment to enable them to analyse the soil in the area.

Ideal employee honoured



Al Ajeel presents the commemorative plaque to Al Rughail.

THE Zakat House held a function recently to honour Khaled Mohammed Al Rughail from the Finance Department who had been selected as the ideal employee for the period from January to March 1988.

The acting director Al Ajeel praised Khaled Al Rughail for his efficiency and sincerity and presented him with a commemorative plaque and a cer-

tificate of appreciation.

The ceremony was attended by the acting director of Zakat House, Abdul Kader Al Ajeeb, the charity institution director Abduraziz Al Bazei and the acting director of public relations Abdul Hameed Al Rubaei, the head of the selection committee Rashed Al Rashed and the director of Financial Affairs, Waleed Al Jarallah.

Jassar hails Faw victory

almost six months against occupation.

Jassar also hailed the Iraqi victory in Faw and the release and return home of Kuwaiti hostages aboard KAC Al Jaberiyah after 16 days in detention.

The minister, in an interview with Kuna on the occasion of the last ten days of Ramadan usually marked by intensive worshiping by pious Muslims, said that the Islamic world is feeling with the Palestinian brothers who are daily suffering from a merciless and oppressive enemy.

He appealed to the Islamic nations to extend support to the Palestinians now revolting for their charitable deeds.

Driving schools to open soon

THE Director General of Kuwait's Drivers' Training Company Brigadier Saqer Al Jaser said that the company was attempting to work with the General Traffic Department in issuing learning drivers' permits. He added that the driving schools would soon be ready for

operation and that the first school to be opened will be located in the Capital Governorate.

Al Jaser said that the schools would be able to accept all applicants and would provide female instructors for female applicants.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Call to clean Kuwait from elements not loyal

AKUWATI daily called yesterday on the government to clean Kuwait from elements serving foreign interests because these elements "do not deserve the honour of belonging to Kuwait."

Al-Anbaa, in a comment on the explosion on Saturday in a commercial building, said "if there is an isolated and a limited number of a minority that has an extended loyalty to outside this good and genuine land, then it is important to uproot it and withdraw the citizenship from it."

"We demand cleansing Kuwait from elements not loyal and not honest in belonging to it," the newspaper said, noting that Kuwait has done this in the past with a pro-Iranian group and the same step should be done with others if evidence is complete.

Saturday's explosion rocked a commercial building located only one kilometre from the building of the Council of Minister in the heart of busy Kuwait City.

No casualties were reported, but material damage to an office inside the building was heavy.

The sabotage comes only two weeks after another explosion in Kuwait city damaging the office of Saudi Arabian airlines.

Al-Anbaa said "we will not sit around fearing an explosion today or tomorrow and we will not wait for agents of terrorism to commit their next plan. We must take action and defend Kuwait and its people against any dishonest element who wants to corrupt our land and execute the malicious instructions of the enemy."

Sanaa-Aden accord hailed

ANOTHER newspaper hailed the recent agreement concluded between North and South Yemens on resolving border dispute and on joint exploitation of oil between the two Arab countries.

Al-Watan said in an editorial the accord is an important step because both Sanaa and Aden are in need of joint action and oil revenues to build up the two countries which suffered poverty and lack of resources for a long time.

The agreement was applauded by Arab countries and peoples which have suffered, as did the Yemen, from discord and conflict among brothers, the paper noted.

It added that Yemen's oil should be a strength to the Arabs and of good results to Yemen and not a cause of discord and struggle among brothers, and stressed that "the joint exploitation of the mineral wealth in the disputed area will add strength to the spirit of unity of the Yemeni people."

In conclusion, the newspaper expressed hope that the agreement would be the onset of other accords between the two halves of Yemen that restore unity to the divided country and prosperous life to the Yemeni people.

Appeal to issue anti-smoking law

Cultural agreement

SECRETARY-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters Sulaiman Al Askari met here with Bulgarian Ambassador to Kuwait Angel Manchev during which they approved the execution programme for a cultural agreement for the year 1988 and 1990.

The programme will cover cooperation in the fields of education, science, culture, arts, letters, information and sports.

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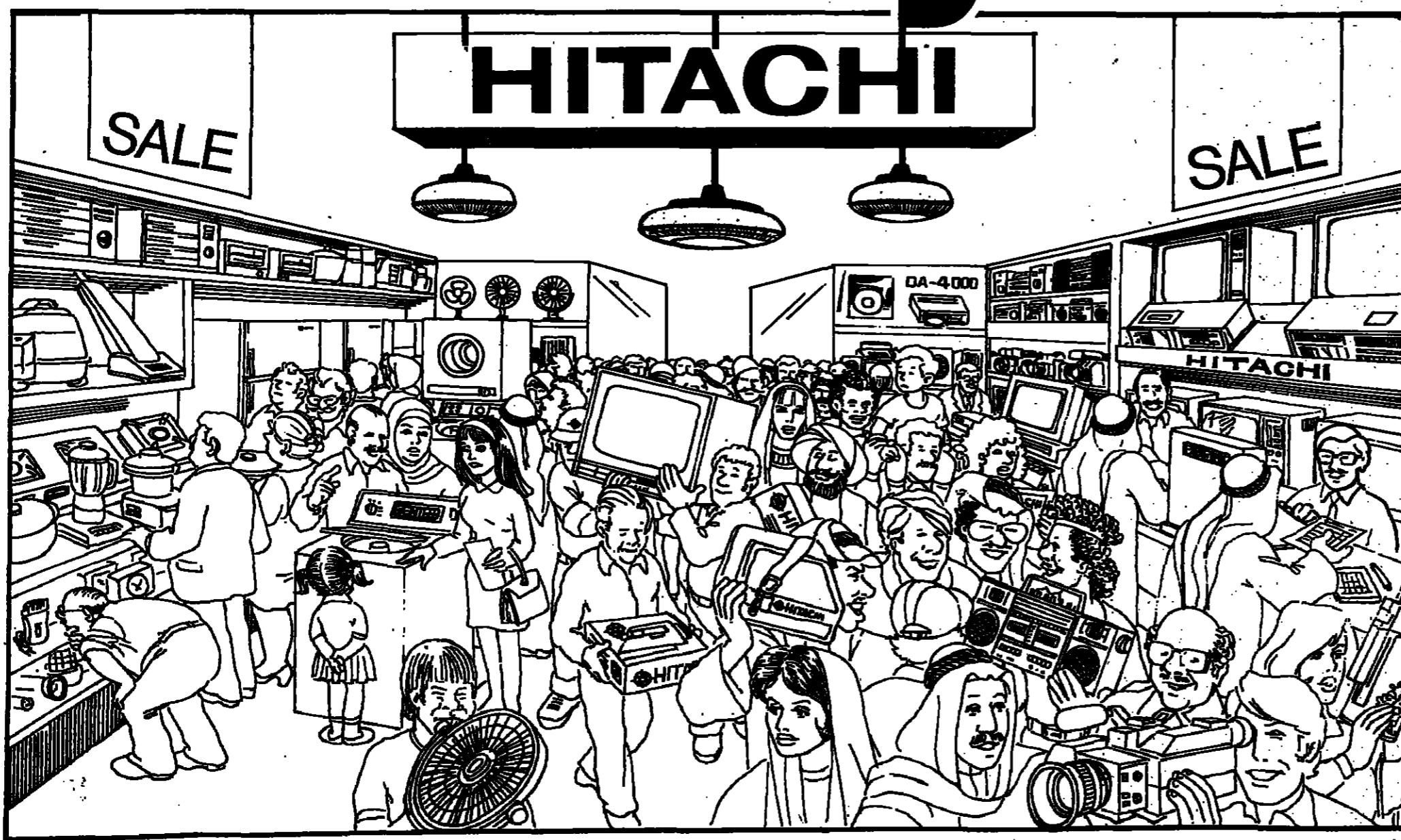
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هيتاشي
HITACHI

Arabian peninsula on guard against locusts

RIYADH, May 8, (AP): Swarms of locusts have been sighted in Saudi Arabia's agriculturally important northern regions but officials said yesterday they were confident there would be no crop damage.

Further south on the Arabian Peninsula, fears of a locust invasion were recently dispelled after agriculture officials took a closer look and found them to be grasshoppers.

Dr A. Al Mjeni, plant protection expert with the Omani government, said there were no locust sightings in the Sultanate so far and he saw "a minimal threat" to the rest of the Arabian Peninsula.

Cited

The reports underlined the close watch of the situation as the desert countries on the peninsula fear an invasion of the voracious eaters of vegetation swinging through from locust-infested areas of North Africa.

In the arid expanses of these countries, agricultural areas are preciously guarded. Oil-rich Saudi Arabia has grown and harvested wheat in recent years, a matter of national pride especially when exports of the

grain began in 1986 to countries in Europe and lately even to the Soviet Union.

Salem Bamoush, Director-General of the Agricultural Research Centre in the Saudi Red Sea port city of Jeddah, who was reached by telephone, said of the sightings in the northern regions of the kingdom "some swarms were 10 kilometres by 10 kilometres [6 by 6 miles]."

Two swarms were cited in Tabuk, where wheat is grown, but Bamoush said those swarms were "completely controlled before egg-laying" by both ground teams and aerial spraying.

Six swarms in the Al Jouf area, also a wheat-producing region, have already laid eggs which are expected to hatch mid-May.

"Equipped and qualified teams are controlling the locusts now," said Bamoush. "They are also surveying the area to find out if more swarms have invaded."

But he said he did not expect the kingdom to experience any crop damage from the invasion.

So far, the sightings have been confined to the country's northern regions and there have been

no reports of locusts in Riyadh, the capital.

"There has been no damage, but we don't know what will happen in the future," said Bamoush. "We expect more swarms in mid-May, and according to the weather conditions, not again until November." At that time, he suspects the swarms now in North Africa to make their way east.

The committee follows up prevailing social phenomena and their impact on the society and present recommendations that will help stabilise social life.

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Pilgrims to Makkah require vaccination against meningitis

RIYADH, May 8, (AP): Pilgrims travelling to Saudi Arabia this year will require vaccinations against meningitis, medical authorities announced yesterday.

Dr Abdullah A.J. Al Anizi, director-general of the Ministry of Health's contagious and parasitic disease department, said pilgrims should be vaccinated three weeks in advance.

Al Anizi said those who cannot produce a health certificate will be vaccinated when they reach Saudi Arabia, adding: "It will be effective, but not as effective as one given three weeks in advance."

Confirming news published earlier in the day in Saudi newspapers, he said: "I'm afraid it is a must. We are concerned about their safety."

The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the World Health Organisation have notified countries sending pilgrims about the new requirement, he said.

"Last year, we registered some cases of meningitis after Hajj," said Dr Al Anizi. "So we want to put an emphasis on preventive measures, rather than waiting for something to happen."

He noted that the kingdom has purchased enough meningitis vaccine for all foreign residents of the kingdom performing Hajj.

Roudhan reports to cabinet on Dhahar area

THE Council of Ministers yesterday held an ordinary meeting under the chairmanship of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla.

In statements following the meeting, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed, said the cabinet took note of the content of the message sent by HH the Amir to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

The message dealt with the convening of the sixth summit of the Organisation of Islamic Conference scheduled to be hosted by Senegal, as well as the bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

The council was also acquainted with the PLO chairman Yasir Arafat's message to the Amir, in which Arafat expressed the PLO's appreciation for the Amir's sympathy and condolences on the assassination of Palestinian leader Khalil Al Wazir.

State Minister for Housing Affairs, Nasser Al Roudhan, submitted a report on the efforts exerted by the technical committee entrusted with studying the phenomenon of land subsidence.

Murder suspect apprehended

ACCORDING to a local newspaper, security men in Faifa apprehended a 21-year Kuwaiti alleged to be the murderer of a 19-year-old divorcee.

Investigations reveal that the suspect an ex-employee of the

Social services committee to meet

THE Higher Planning Council's social services committee holds a meeting today under the chairmanship of Ahmad Saad Al Jassem.

The committee will host Planning Minister, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, to discuss a number of studies that will be launched to the council's general secretariat.

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Kuwaiti teachers needed to fill vacancies

THE director of Farwaniya educational area Khaled Al Sulaihim stated there have been many resignations among seconded teachers in the area and resulting vacancies would be offered to teachers qualified in different specialties. He believed new Kuwaiti teachers were needed to occupy vacancies in the intermediate and secondary

stages and the area needed additional schools.

Al Sulaihim added that the percentage of Kuwaiti teachers currently operating in the area was 97 per cent in kindergartens, 90 per cent in the primary stage. However, the intermediate and secondary stages needed Kuwaiti teachers. Further, to

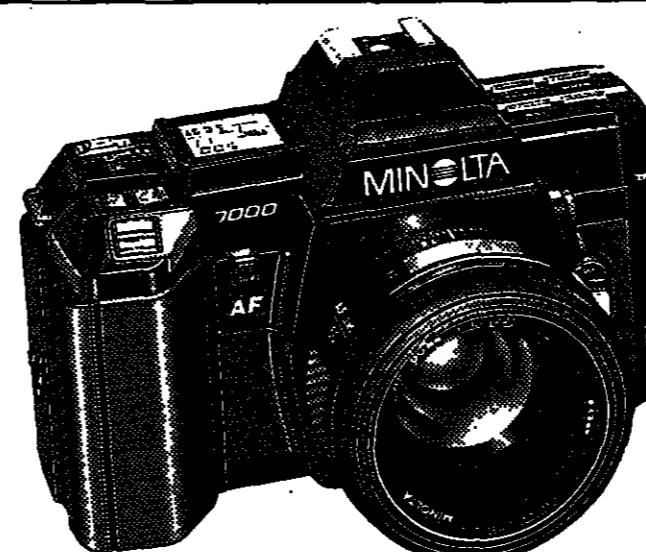
complement the existing school curriculum, he felt that the area strongly favoured the holding and organising of social, educational and health symposia to enhance national development. Over and above, the area also encouraged the organisation of extra-curricular activities in cooperation with other government scientific and educational

institutions to help students develop their individual talents and mould their literary or scientific capabilities.

He concluded the area's five-year plan included the construction of a number of schools in Andalus and Firdous to meet the educational requirements in these areas.

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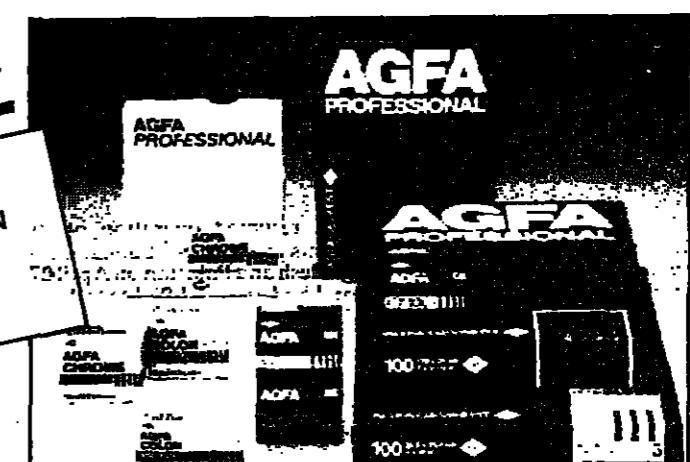
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

OF all the things you wear, your expression is the most important—John Ruskin, English writer-art critic (1819-1900).

OPINION

Hezbollah: Iran's terrorist wing

HEZBOLLAH sold Lebanon to Iran by converting it into an enclave for terrorism. While Hezbollah kidnaps and kills, Iran collects the ransom, paying a little to Hezbollah in Lebanon.

With inflation devaluing the Lebanese pound, any amount Iran pays its ally seems like a lot, especially when compared to the benefits Iran receives from Hezbollah. Through Hezbollah Iran got its money from France and weapons from the US.

The victim of Hezbollah's terrorism is Lebanon, where destruction continues to increase as revenge is sought for Hezbollah's terrorism throughout the world. This is the reason for the fighting between the Amal and Hezbollah militias now.

Amal, who have disassociated themselves from those who cooperate with the foreigners fighting against the Arabs in their country, are the more respectable of the Arab Shites.

Iranian money has brainwashed some of the Arab Lebanese and they have turned their loyalty from their country to the sect, creating one of the most dangerous issues that the Arab world has ever faced.

Many Hezbollah followers were converted to Iranian agents for mercenary reasons. Iran pays them a pittance from its earnings in world terrorism, but even this small amount has been effective in brainwashing many people particularly teenagers.

So, a victory for Amal over Hezbollah means another defeat, among many, for the Iranian regime during this holy month of Ramadan.

Hezbollah began facing difficulties when it failed to land the hijacked jetliner at the Beirut airport. They had planned to land the plane in Beirut, take the passengers from the plane and hold them as they have other foreign hostages, bargaining with their lives from time to time.

The failures increase, and, with them, the defeats of the Iranian regime continue.

The success of Amal in destroying Hezbollah and its terrorist enclaves would certainly signal the beginning of a new era in Lebanon.

All sects in Lebanon must stop selling their country's national security to foreign forces, who exploit the Lebanese civil war and the terrorist enclaves there.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Iranian exiles dream of homeland

By Raj Chonkar

MIDNAPORE, India, (UPI): Mirza Hussain remembers the last words his 65-year-old father spoke before he succumbed to a heart attack: "You must find some way to return."

With that utterance, Ashiq Ali in January passed to his 25-year-old son the responsibility of leading a 200-strong clan back to a land they have never seen and that does not want them.

Since December 1985, the tightly knit tribe of Safari Shiite Muslims, who claim to be descended from Iranian nomads, has lived in tattered, sun-baked tents on a dusty lot next to the train station in Midnapore, a bustling town 60 miles (100 km) west of Calcutta.

They survive on the scanty income earned by the men hawking cheap sunglasses in the streets, leaving the women and 40 children in the camp.

"The railway people want us to move out and they abuse the children when they go and fetch water," complained Hussain's mother, Sharifa Bibi.

The refugees say they are descendants of inhabitants of the village of Lar in Iran's Shiraz district, who fled government repression in 1906.

Wandered

Horse traders by profession, they wandered as far as Burma and then back to India, which they cross-crossed with their herds. Their nomadic existence ended when Hussain's grandfather, Shahaj Beg, decided the clan should settle in Durgapur. 70 miles (110km) north of Midnapore.

Life was good for the Safaris, who took up spectacle manufacturing and gem cutting, purchased houses, learned Bengali and sent their children to school.

But they always kept alive the dream of one day returning to Iran.

"None of us here have seen Iran," said Hussain. "We only heard the story that my father heard from his father. We speak Farsi and adhere to all Iranian customs. We marry only within the community."

The answer to their prayers appeared to come in 1980 when Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini announced that all Iranians without criminal records were welcome to return home.

Hussain's father began an exchange of letters with the Iran-

Rebels may harass troops as they leave

Soviet forces weigh options for Afghan pullout

By Hugh Pain

KABUL, (Reuters): The Soviet forces in Afghanistan begin their pullout on May 15 under last month's Geneva accords.

But the questions facing them are how and whether the anti-government mujahedeen rebels will harry them as they go.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, current leader of the seven-party rebel alliance in Pakistan, left no doubt as to the latter.

"We will stick to our plan to attack the Soviets constantly until the last Soviet soldier leaves our country," he said.

The logistics of the withdrawal are less predictable.

Afghanistan is a landlocked country 1,200 km (800 miles) across and 800 km (500 miles) deep, bounded to the south and east by Pakistan, to the west by Iran and to the north by the Soviet Union.

In a land of primitive communications, the major highway loops like a necklace from Soviet Uzbekistan in the north-east, south through Kabul and

Ghazni, across to Kandahar and up through Herat in the far west to the border with Soviet Turkmenistan.

So Soviet strategists have two major choices — to fall back on Kabul and then take the short 300 km (200 mile) route north, or to send their troops the long way round to the west, gathering up men and equipment as they head for Kuska, 120 km (80 miles) north of Herat.

Choices

"The Soviets know some of the mujahedeen will want to have a go at them, so they will want to move fast, not slowly," said a Western diplomat in the Afghan capital. "For this reason everybody assumes they will fold back on Kabul and take the shorter eastern route."

But the highway to the border at Termez has to pass through the 7.6 km (4.8 mile) Salang tunnel, where 1,100 Soviet troops died in a possibly accidental fire in 1982.

If the mujahedeen could dynamite the Salang, the Soviets

would be trapped, so they may send some of their troops back by the western route, both to reduce the risk and to divide the mujahedeen forces," said the diplomat.

Ambushes

The Western route has the added attraction of running through relatively flat country with little scope for ambushes.

Military experts here say the Soviet forces have the armour and fire-power to keep any Afghan road open for a while, so the choice of route may ultimately be decided by who holds the towns along the road.

The (Afghan) regime is trying to keep Herat, Kandahar, Ghazni and Jalalabad (in the east, close to Pakistan) and the northern cities," said a military attaché.

As the Russian pull out of these places they will put its own men in. They are well-equipped with Soviet guns, tanks and aircraft which are well-maintained so far, and they are well dug in, so the assumption is that the mujahedeen will walk straight in may

prove far from the truth."

Diplomats say the Russians are confident the Afghan Army can keep control of the southern towns at least until August, when under the Geneva agreement half of the 115,000 Soviet troops should have gone.

At this point they expect them to abandon the western route and make Kabul into a defensive "porcupine," pulling their troops back into the city and thence north through strong defensive either side of the Salang Road.

Safe

"Kabul is safe for us as well as the Russians — certainly until the last Russian leaves," said one diplomat, unperturbed by the occasional rocket fired into the city by the mujahedeen in the surrounding hills.

But he was uneasy about what would happen after the Soviet withdrawal. "Military convention says attackers need a four- or five-to-one advantage to overturn a defended perimeter. But some of the Army will melt away

after the Russians go, and you may get strikes, riots or a mujahedeen fifth column inside the city."

A defence analyst said the Russians would destroy their most sensitive command and signals installations as they withdrew and would take with them advanced equipment like SU-25 fighters and BTR-80 armoured personnel carriers.

But they would leave relatively modern armaments like MiG-23 fighters, a few dozen T-62 tanks, SA-2 and SA-3 air defence missiles and BM-21 "Stalin organ" rocket launchers.

Airlifted

The Afghan government forces also have, and know how to handle, the Mi-8 and Mi-24 helicopter gunships. "So if the mujahedeen have less Western support — as they are supposed to under the Geneva agreement — and fewer Stinger missiles, they are in for a rough time," said the analyst.

Most Soviet troops are expected to be out by late this year and really turn round and hit them."

the rest covered by Afghan Army control of Kabul, could be snuffed, leaving their remaining heavy equipment behind.

"I don't think the Soviets are going to have a problem withdrawing," said a diplomat. "I think some (rebel) will harry them, but not the sensible ones."

Among the "sensible" ones is Pakistan. Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, chief of the Afghan National Liberation Front, said his strategy was to encourage the Soviets to leave unopposed.

"We will not attack them once we are sure they are withdrawing," he said.

But diplomats in Kabul and Islamabad say the guerrillas will want to capture a large town as soon as possible to show they can pose a real threat to the government in Kabul.

If some mujahedeen score an early success, for instance by capturing Kandahar or ambushing a Soviet column, one diplomat said, "the rest might not be able to resist the opportunity, and then the Soviets would have to really turn round and hit them."

Americans love to make fun of occupants of White House

WASHINGTON, (AP): Americans love to make fun of the occupants of the White House, and President Ronald Reagan and wife Nancy have just given them an excuse.

What the killer rabbit was for Jimmy Carter and the bump on the head was for Gerald Ford, the signs of the Zodiac may become for Reagan.

Actually, not much of an excuse is needed to make Americans laugh about presidents.

Lyndon Johnson was subjected to endless jokes just for pulling up his shirt and showing his scar from gall bladder surgery. Abraham Lincoln was a figure of fun because of his habit of telling tall stories. Richard Nixon drew guffaws for dressing up White House guards in uniforms reminiscent of a comic opera.

Impact

Once in a while, though, something happens that strikes the public funny bone with special impact.

For Carter, it all started on a spring afternoon in 1979 when he told some of his aides gathered on a balcony of the White House, about his encoupage with a swamp rabbit as he fished in a pond on his farm.

Carter said the animal was hissing and gnashing its teeth and seemed intent on climbing into his boat. He said he took action by splashing water at the rabbit with his paddle to shoo it away.

Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, who was in the group on

President Reagan

the balcony, later wrote, "had I been doing my job, I would have stopped the president at that moment, pointed out the dangers to him and his administration if such a story ever got out, and sworn him and all within reach of me to secrecy."

Instead, Powell told the story, several months later, to a reporter, Brooks Jackson of the Associated Press, who wrote a light-hearted column about it.

"It was a nightmare," said Powell. "The story ran for more than a week. The president was repeatedly asked to explain his behaviour at Town Hall meetings, press conferences, and meetings with editors.

Ford inadvertently broke into comedy one rainy day in Salzburg, Austria, as he walked down

the steps of his airplane on arrival for an international meeting with one arm around his wife and the other holding an umbrella.

Two or three steps from the bottom of the ramp, by his coat, his heel caught on something. With no free arm to grab a rail, he tumbled onto the tarmac, then stumbled to his feet, unharmed.

"From that moment on, every time I stumbled or bumped my head or fell in the snow, reporters zeroed in on that to the exclusion of almost everything else," Ford complained in his White House memoirs. "And I admit I enjoyed it myself." He peddled the public perception of me as a stumbler. And that wasn't funny," said Ford.

Not only that, but television stars such as Johnny Carson and Chevy Chase made Ford's alleged clumsiness a staple of their sarcastic routines.

Now comes former White House Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan, reportedly, saying in a forthcoming book that Mrs. Reagan used astrology to determine the timing of presidential speeches and travel. The report reminded people that the President also has professed interest in astrology.

Both Carter and Ford had elections coming up when the snickers about the rabbit and the stumbles began. Both lost.

Reagan doesn't have that to worry about. He isn't running.

Leaders see their future in the stars

THE disclosure that Nancy Reagan consulted astrologers in the White House is only the latest example of soothsaying in high places.

Julius Caesar, Winston Churchill and Adolf Hitler all found cause to look to the stars and among modern-day leaders, Indira Gandhi was widely believed to consult astrologers for guidance.

Two thousand years ago, Caesar regularly used astrology to plot military and political victories but the Roman general ignored to his cost the soothsayer who told him to "beware the Ides of March." On March 15, in 44 BC he was assassinated.

Churchill and Hitler played their own "star wars" during World War II. The phlegmatic British leader, learning that Hitler used an astrologer, hired his own to predict the German dictator's possible moves.

The play worked well that Hitler fired his astrologer in 1944 for predicting the outcome of the war.

Erosion

To make matters worse, more than 80 percent of farmers live in the highly eroded northern highlands, which also contain 95 percent of regularly cropped land. Erosion of the already fragile highlands continues at a frightening speed.

Yet farmers believe the situation is not entirely desperate.

Less than 10 percent of arable land is used. Experts say the area of production could be doubled over 10 years while yields could be increased by 50 percent.

But to achieve this, Ethiopia will need money, a scarce commodity in a poor country fighting drought and an internal war.

Foreign development aid to Ethiopia amounts to \$39 per capita, compared with \$70 for neighbouring pro-American Somalia and an \$18 average for black Africa.

Washington, for one, will not rush in with development money.

"There can be no question of the United States providing regular development assistance to a government which does not meet the most fundamental prerequisites for receiving such assistance in our judgment," said a senior State Department official, who described Ethiopia as "a massive abuser of human rights."

"Famine cannot be overcome

major decisions and five-star hotels in New Delhi have resident soothsayers, most Indian politicians consult astrologers before taking major political decisions.

Indira Gandhi, who was assassinated in 1984, was widely thought to consult astrologers although she never admitted doing so.

Consult

A spokesman for Rajiv Gandhi said the Indian prime minister was an exception. "He doesn't consult astrologers and does not believe in any supernatural phenomenon."

Indonesian President Suharto has been known to mediate in caves, using traditional techniques of Japanese mysticism.

Suharto took former Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam to a cave in central Java in 1975 for one such meditation session.

The late German astrologer Margarete Buchholz, "Madame Buchholz," said former chancellor Konrad Adenauer was one of her clients. She told Der Spiegel magazine in 1981 that she still had several prominent politicians among her customers, but refused to name them.

Mrs. Reagan, in conforming on Tuesday she had consulted astrologers, is not the first US president's wife to seek advice from unorthodox sources.

Abraham Lincoln's wife, Mary, held seances in the White House and mediums are said to have warned her about potential enemies in his cabinet.

Earlier this century the wives of both President Woodrow Wilson and Warren Harding received mediumship at the White House.

President Reagan himself denied astrology has ever influenced his policies and decisions and in Moscow, observers said there was no evidence his host at this month's Moscow summit, Mikhail Gorbachev, consults soothsayers or stars.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1573 — Henry, Duke of Anjou, is elected king of Poland.
 1688 — Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I signs

By Fathima Ahmed

THE pleasure of watching a film on the big screen was recently reintroduced by a kind friend. The pleasure was mine: seeing a film in the cinema felt good. The sound, music, costumes, sets and other details were more pronounced. And being in the cinema hall was fun — after being accustomed to fast forwarding all songs on video, it was nice to rediscover the joy of going on a flight of fantasy with "Kaun ha woh..." and "Hey you" in Shahenshah.

Even the clichéd romance between Amitabh and a delectable Meenakshi seemed infectious. Everything around Amitabh, except Meenakshi, is mediocre in Shahenshah. Yet, it was fun to watch the superstar huff and puff in the film. On video, the experience was claustrophobic. Returning to the video world was like jumping from the sea into a puddle. Every video film is interrupted, at an average, every 20 minutes. There is only one interval in the cinema hall. K. Bapaiyah's *Charnon Ki Saugandhi* is a prime example of needless interruptions jarring narration. Each time Mithun becomes emotional, the video owners decide it is time to interrupt with a repetition of Asha's melodious songs or Lata's Geet or an advertisement of some product that is commonly used. Such interruptions are annoying.

Charnon Ki Saugandhi is

Big is beautiful

high drama, K. Bapaiyah's way of supporting socialism. Bapaiyah's idea of socialism seems plausible as Mithun goes around the village, belittling everything the landlord does. The idea is to humiliate the rich and glorify the poor, or bring them on a par with the rich.

Bapaiyah takes the easy way out: he devises a far-fetched ploy — the rich man's daughter marries the poor man's son. The desire to draw parallels from mythology seems dominant in most films. Here, a father gambles his daughter in a political game.

Bapaiyah deserves credit for not going overboard with melodrama, and being consistently true to intent. Even when Ravi marries Kanchan, the girl's affections don't change overnight (as so often happens in films). Kanchan is adamantly against the marriage — and her husband.

Normally, filmmakers go berserk when they lay their hands on a movie with "emotional" overtones". Bapaiyah has underplayed melodrama, injecting it in just the right amount, sufficient to retain interest. Bapaiyah knows



Amrita Singh: tolerable

where to draw the line. A fierce fight erupts between the honest, hardworking loyal father, Govind (Dr Shree Ram Lagoo), and his belligerent educated son, Ravi. There was scope to go bananas. They don't. But Mama (Kader Khan) and his henchman (Asrani) do — with so-called comedy.

Amrita Singh, a non-actress in most films, lives up to her role as the spoilt daughter, Kanchan, who is forced into marriage with a poor man, Ravi, played by Mithun Chakrabarty.

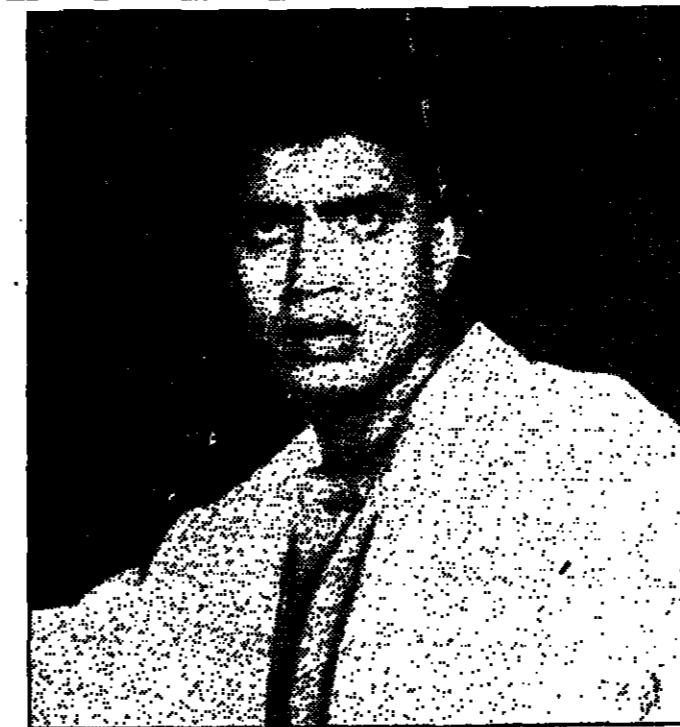
Mithun seems to be emerging as the newest angry young man

in films. He has all the fire. Now, he seems to be getting the fuel.

Romance is in the air of *Qayamat se Qayamat Tak*. No one knows why the title is so unromantic. Newcomers Juhu Chawla and Amir Khan debut as the young lovers, caught in family rivalry. Sounds familiar? It has shades of Bobby, Love Story, Ek Duje Ke Liye and many other sagas of "immortal love" between two people. This one is a romantic tragedy. Perhaps, romance is a tragedy. The events leading to the depressing end are frivolous — not the stuff that epics are made of — but light, fluffy and frothy, romantic.

You sympathise with the young girl, whose despotic father discovers her love affair; we smile a little when she manages to get off the hook and elopes with her boyfriend and the two love-birds nest in a dilapidated temple.

Amir Khan looks too innocent to play anyone but a young romancer; Juhu Chawla is a fresh, appealing actress, and has all that it takes to win over male fans.



Mithun: the latest angry young man

Qayamat... has shades of the 1960s, the Nasir Hussain touch this film is directed by Mansoor Khan; when romance was lovely, separation a disaster and reunion a time to rejoice. The villains were simple folk, idealistic, bogged down in pride and prejudice. To watch such films, you can switch off your mind and switch on the video. *Qayamat*, despite its tide, is good, clean entertainment.

The desire to see some sense in *Hasrat* was unfulfilled, even after sitting through the long, drawn out drama — a love triangle. Hasrat had the makings of an acceptable drama. Along the way, as Raman strays, so does the script. Raman is a doctor, happily married, and deeply in love with his wife, Radha. When he meets the lovely Kiran, an actress, love sparks fly. Raman is lost in Kiran's eyes. So is the theme. It seems to come to a standstill. Raman looks into Kiran's eyes. The camera stops — it seems for an eternity.

When it rolls again, he is smoking — the smoke bubbles filling the room. Apparently, he is contemplating "To tell or not to tell my wife." The wife knows. That is irrelevant.

On second thoughts, it would be a good idea not to think about the dilemma in *Hasrat*. The trouble is that both Kiran and Radha are expecting a baby. Raman has no idea what to do. The director, though, is certain of the outcome. So are you. Hasrat is painfully slow, punctuated by lengthy pauses — longer songs and unbelievable drama. Forget it.

The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwania. Tel: 4712900.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Iwan Gallery

An exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Sa'idi Abbas is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 8 to 11 pm at the gallery in the Zahra complex, Salimiyah.

Sultana Gallery

The Islamic Heritage of Spain is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 7 to 10 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thunayan Al Ghannim Bldg, Al Soor St.

THEATRE

Natya Bharati

Natya Bharati, a group of Indian amateur dramatists, will present Hindi play. Undersecretary, a comedy, on May 18, 7 pm, at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium.

Go-Rhythm

A musical show featuring Al Yousef, Rashed, etc. will be presented in the Grand Ballroom, Regency Palace hotel, on June 2, Thursday. Tickets — KD 10 including dinner. Produced and directed by Glenis Muckle and Kerry Langley. All proceeds will be donated to the British charity Medical Aid for Palestinians to help Dr Pauline Cutting OBE, and her team, to provide medical care for refugees. For details call 2627003.

Kuwait Singers

"Song for a Summer Evening" is the title of a concert by the Singers. It will be held at 8 pm on May 31 and June 1 at the UAS, Salwa. Tickets — KD 2. For reservations ring 3940770 ext. 57; 5384873; 5740627 (answering service).

Konkan drama

The Colva Dramatic Troupe will present Konkan drama entitled "Mujen Dusrem Ghor" on May 20, 4 pm, at the Indian Arts Circle, Funaitas. The play has been written by Rosary Fernandez. Performers include Mendes brothers, Cajean Sanvordem, Marcus Vaz, Xavier Gomes and Agostinho Rebello. For tickets contact Colva committee members.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait Al Alamiyah Pharmacy Jandal Bldg., Fahad Al Salem St.

Baghdad Pharmacy Abdullah Al Salem St.

Hawalli and Nugra Al Noor Pharmacy Shamsan St.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Tiger Joe
Starring: David Dirbeck, Annabelle
Al Salmiya
True Stories
Starring: Joab Goodman
Al Hazra
Rage of Honour
Drive-In
Karokoun Fi Al Sharah (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra
Al Firdous
Maut Ki Ghali (Hindi)
Fahheel Open-Air
Trishul (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Raakhee
Al Fahsheej
Alligator

Kuwait Players

The monthly Flassik cooking class will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Wednesday, May 25, 4 pm. For details call Rory — 2530000 F/B Office.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn

The Shahrazed barbecue will be launched by the poolside during the Eid holidays, featuring barbecue, bazaar, games and videos; raffle and giveaways. The event starts on May 18 and will be held every Wednesday night.

Ramadan diwaniya offers sohour, foul, falafel and Arabic entertainment. Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop features Arabic and Continental buffets for iftar, in addition to a la carte menu.

At the Hilton

Break your fast with family and friends in La Palma, open daily from sunset to 1.30 am. La Palma offers falafel, buffets with a thyme quenching drinks and

Flassik Cooking Class

The monthly Flassik cooking class will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Wednesday, May 25, 4 pm. For details call Rory — 2530000 F/B Office.

SPORTS

PBAK Marathon Bowling Tournament

First marathon bowling tournament will be held for three consecutive days from May 18 to 20 at 300 Club from 9 am to 6 pm. The first day will be for men; and the last day for women. Fees for men — KD 5.50; women — KD 4. For details contact PBAK, Sarah Macarimba — 4843447.

MINI Olympics

The Filipino Mini-Olympics will be held on May 17, 7 am, at the Al Faraj stadium. Games

Ramadan specials

A special a la carte menu is offered from iftar to 1.30 pm.

Entertain friends or colleagues in La Patisserie, open daily from sunset until midnight. Coffee, cool drinks, ice cream, fresh juice and pastries are on offer.

The Faileka Restaurant has been closed for the month of Ramadan.

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club

Tuesday, May 10, club annual general meeting at Gazelle Club, 7.30 pm.

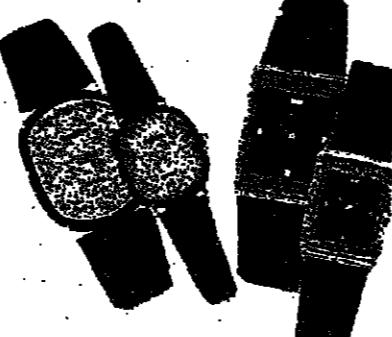
Filipino Marathon

The Filipino marathon batakaning buto 88 — will be held on May 17 (3 km); May 18 (5 km) and May 20 (10 km). This event is open to all Filipinos — individuals or teams. For details call Bong Melencio — Louie Alcaraz — 4877793.

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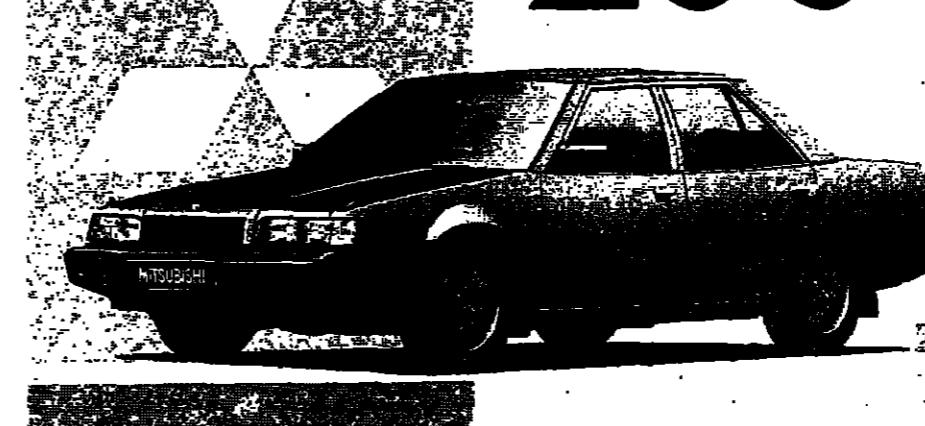
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- ★ Audio-visual items
- ★ Musical instruments
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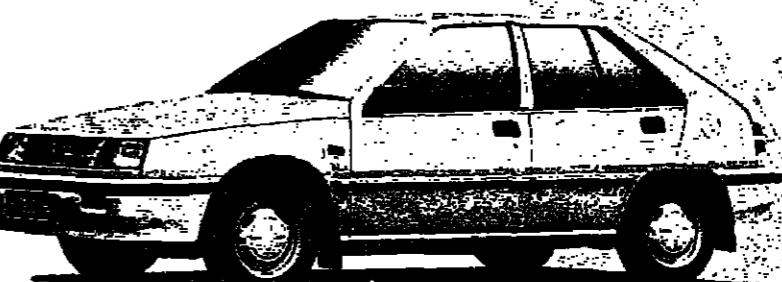
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Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

1.00 Holy Quran

1.10 Tao Tao cartoons

2.00 Zahrat Al Saif: historical serial

3.00 Istafarat Ramadan

3.35 Jarrooh: daily serial, featuring Zuhair Numani, Maha Saleh, Dawood Jalal.

4.45 Sanawat Al Sabar: daily Arabic serial, starring Suheir Murshidi, Magdi Wahba, Hamdi, George Seedham.

5.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Al Sharawi.

6.30 Cartoons

6.45 After Iftar

7.00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial, featuring Khalid Al Obaid, Abdul Rahman Al Aqil, Jassim Nabhani, Mohammad Jaber, Ahmad Saleh.

8.00 Alwan: hosted by Rola Al Farah

8.30 Quran and Science: presented by Ahmad Shawki Ibrahim. Tonight's episode is "Alam Al Bahar".

9.10 Dairat Al Khair: religious programme

9.30 Ramadan Contest: News in Arabic

10.00 Musafir: Bila Hawaia: daily serial, starring Hayat Al Fahad, Ghaneem Al Saleh.

12.00 Late Night Serial: Saber, Ya Umm Saber. Daily serial.

1.00 Hilmi Al Hamish: Arabic drama.

2.15 News Summary

2.20 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

8.00 Holy Quran

8.10 Wildfire: cartoon serial

8.30 The Animal Express

9.00 News in English

9.40 Islamic Horizon: "The Forty Hadith".

One of the cruellest and most horrific wars in history

Surviving the killing fields of Cambodia

Cambodian Haing S. Ngor, who won an Oscar for his role in the hit movie The Killing Fields, didn't have to act his part... he had been there in real life. Yet, now, 12 years after the Khmer Rouge's bloody revolution, he admits he wants to return to the country again... to pray for his 'lost' girlfriend and family.

By Carlton Stuart

THE shy young actor strode hesitantly onto the stage of the Los Angeles theatre, blinking under the gaze of spotlights and TV cameras.

In his hands, he clutched the heavy gold-plated Oscar statuette which had been presented to him with the announcement: "The winner for Best Supporting Actor is Haing S. Ngor of The Killing Fields."

The audience leapt to its feet, clapping and shouting, a few wiping away tears. For this was not simply an instance of an award for a professional actor. Cambodian Haing was a real-life refugee from the killing fields — a survivor of one of the cruellest and most horrific wars in history.

In the movie, The Killing Fields, he had played Cambodian Dith Pran, town mayor and former journalist who had struggled against the Communist Khmer Rouge and its policy of mass genocide.

After the Oscar ceremony, Haing had stood polite and smiling in his smart dinner suit and shiny patent leather shoes. The more observant of those who shook his hand might have spotted that the tip of one of his ring fingers was missing.

What they didn't know was that it had been severed in an act of deliberate torture, that red ants, drawn to the blood, had swarmed over the mutilated hand and had bitten with a ferocity that had put him in agony.

And there were a few who knew of the scalp wounds and the burn scars on his legs and feet. For as Haing says: "Three times I suffered torture and

imprisonment. And three times I survived.... His is a life nobody would want to share... yet everyone admires.

Cambodia had seemed like a friendly country to Haing. As a child, life had been pleasant enough for him, his reasonably prosperous merchant family living in the wide boulevards of Phnom Penh.

Fanatical Communist revolution was to change all that. It certainly shattered the dreams of Haing, a recently qualified doctor and part-time teacher at the National University.

For months, ugly rumours had circulated about the violent followers of China's Mao Tse-Tung who had waged guerrilla war against the corrupt government of Lon Nol.

At first, the fighting looked as though it would not affect Phnom Penh. Then war broke out between the Khmer Rouge and Lon Nol troops around the airport.

The fate of one patient will always remain in Haing's memory. The soldier had been hit by a grenade and his face and shoulders were burned. He also had a large puncture wound in his abdomen. The patient needed vital surgery — and fast.

The operating theatre was safe from the distant sound of gunfire, and Dr Haing set to work. One of the operating team made the first incision. Then an orderly broke in shouting: "The soldiers near the bridge have surrendered. Everyone is waving white flags. The Khmer Rouge is now in Phnom Penh!" Just seconds later two young guerrillas decked out in ragged black



Haing S. Ngor, in the film The Killing Fields, which depicts the policy of mass genocide of the Khmer Rouge forces.

shirts and trousers and rubber sandals burst into the theatre menacingly waving their US-made M-16 machine-guns. One of them shouted at Haing: "Where is the doctor?"

Desperately, Haing played for time: "The doctor left the back door a minute ago. You just missed him," he said.

The guerrilla spat: "Liar. If I don't find the doctor I'll come back and kill you."

Withdrew

After the guerrillas withdrew, Haing continued sewing up the patient whose intestines were back in place. Then a nurse urged: "Doctor, we have to leave now. If they don't find a doctor outside they'll kill us."

Haing pointed to the body of the helpless soldier... he was the sole longing to make for Thailand with Huoy.

his Vespa with its red cross taped on the back of the seat, black-clad guerrillas swarmed into the hospital grounds, totting their AK-47 rifles.

Panic reigned in the centre of the city. Desperately frightened refugees, their possessions crammed into cars and handcarts, threatened to bring the Vespa to a halt.

Haing had only one thought — to reach his parents and his girlfriend, Huoy.

Eventually, he forced his way home and gathered together his parents and brothers. His father, Kea Ngor, was keen to reach a sawmill near his home village. He said confidently: "The new regime will need the mill. It'll be our insurance policy." But for Haing, there was the longing to make for Thailand with Huoy.

Kea's dream was about to be shattered brutally by the Khmer Rouge. Pleas at the exits to the city were ignored by the armed guards. The party was told by the Khmer Rouge soldier that Angka, the Khmer Rouge's ruling organisation, had forbidden any travelling.

The entire family was rounded up for an hour's march in the remote mountainous area of Phum Chheav. Then each member was handed a hammer and ordered to shatter the rocks into gravel for the railroad tracks.

Haing recalls: "Blisters erupted across my palms and on my fingers. Huoy's blisters were even worse. As a schoolteacher she had never held a hammer and was not used to physical labour. As she broke the rocks she cried quietly."

The reward was a bowl of thin salted rice porridge and an explanation from the Khmer Rouge supervisor: "Angka is poor, so you must sacrifice yourselves."

Then came an incident which struck Haing with cold fear. On the path beside the railroad track, he saw two civilians, roped together and with bowed heads, being marched along by the Khmer Rouge troops in their black uniforms and green Chinese hats. Haing recognised the prisoners as two of his medical colleagues, but he never saw them again.

Haing says: "We worked for eight days for very little food. When we did eat, it was rice which Huoy traded for some of her mother's clothes."

Then one morning it came, the summons Haing and Huoy had been dreading. A pregnant woman was disembowelled before his eyes for being the wife of a Lon Nol soldier. When Haing was marched into an uncultivated rice field it was to see wooden structures with uprights and crosspieces to which prisoners were tied, their legs dangling over piles of rice husks which were ignited with cigarette lighters.

Haing explains: "They gave off thick stinking smoke and ignited slowly, sometimes taking days."

The Khmer Rouge tortured Haing three times... but he



Ngor carries a child on his back in a scene from the film, for which he won an Oscar. Seven thousand Cambodians had applied for the role of Dith Pran in The Killing Fields.

survived. On the last occasion a vice was placed over his head and squeezed into his temples, while water from a pail poured above him dripped onto his head.

His torturers asked him: "Comrade, are you really a doctor? If you say you were, we will stop the water." He replied over and over again: "I am not a doctor." But by 1977 the power of the Khmer Rouge was in doubt. The prisoners in the "killing fields" had not been able to turn round the economy, despite the forced labour and the executions.

Miracle

Haing had survived by a miracle, but his beloved Huoy, who had become pregnant did not, despite him stealing food for her and risking torture and death. By 1978 Cambodia and those in the "killing fields" were starving.

Haing says: "I didn't have surgical instruments, antibiotics, anaesthesia of any of the standard equipment of an operating theatre for child birth."

Haing died in Haing's arms. A few months later, rebel forces from Vietnam moved up with other dissident movements within Cambodia, and drove out the Khmer Rouge regime.

for good. But they left a legacy of death...

Huoy's mother had long died, along with Haing's parents. His father had last been seen by his son tied up with rope to a procession of other prisoners.

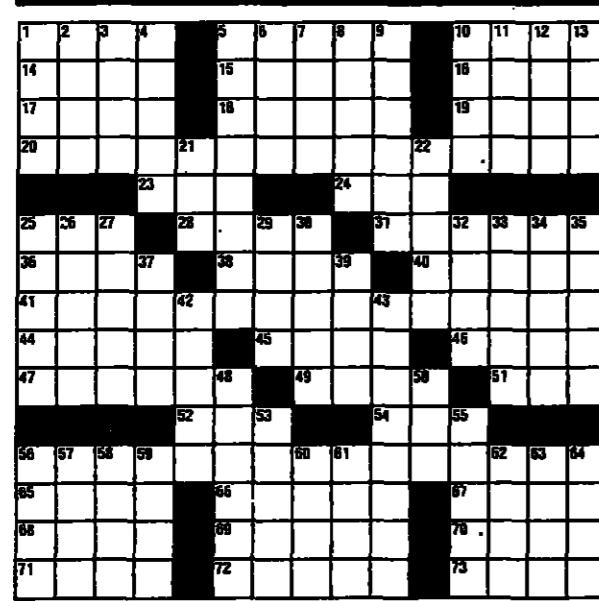
Steadily, throughout the next year, the Vietnamese pushed the Khmer Rouge further and further west. Soon the survivors heard rumours that there was free rice to be had in Thailand. And while the Khmer Rouge units fought each other for food and medicine, Haing Ngor joined the long trail to Thailand.

Once again, his luck held. His medical qualification and smattering of English secured him a job with the American Refugee Committee and a high place in the queue for emigration to the United States.

Three years later, Haing made the exhausting tramp from the Cambodian border to Thailand again. Only this time film cameras went with him. So too did actor Sam Waterston, determined to record the full horror of what had gone on.

* *Surviving The Killing Fields: The Cambodian Odyssey of Haing S. Ngor*. With Roger Warner. Chatto & Windus, London (UK £12.95).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Caps for kit wearers
5 Feels sorry
10 "Diary of Housewife"
14 Leaves out
15 Weather
16 Astro stadium feature
17 Yugoslav marshal
18 British star Johnson
19 After a while
20 Burl Ives' favorite spot?
23 "Joey"
24 Geologic time period
25 "Boot": 1981 German film
28 Hard or soft follower
31 Provoker
36 An Adams
38 Distribute, with "out"
40 Norse chieftain
41 Fence sitter's place
44 Fraternity letter
45 Turner or Louise
46 Tiptop
47 Passover meals
48 Fragrant oil
51 Part of a ten: Abb.
52 Something to chew on
54 Scatter seed
56 Lowest point
58 Love, in Lisbon
66 Ripple patterned fabric
67 Actress
Lancaster
68 Indonesian island
69 Sen. Kefauver
70 Rodents

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

RHODA BAIL TOME
OILER ALLIGATOR
TRIPE ELEVATION
SENATORS TASTE
REBS TAHR
FATSO SERE FAD
TUTU LIP SERVICE
AMORE NOL SEDUM
BENEFICIAL NETS
USE FOAL ANELE
DEUS BOUT
ASPEN BASTIONS
INUNDATES RAMIE
MARTINET INANE
SPAS ECHO ASNER

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦J6 ♠AQ103 ♦AJ9 ♣KQ63 Your right-hand opponent opens one diamond. What action do you take?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦KQ63 ♠AQ103 ♦AJ9 ♣J6 Your right-hand opponent opens one diamond. What action do you take?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AQ942 ♠Q103 ♦AQ ♦73 The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

71 Guthrie of song
72 Adjust a watch
73 Seth's son

29 Cheer for the home team
30 Pixieish
32 The first Mrs. Copperfield

33 Overflow result
34 Gaucho's milieu

35 Alpine sound
37 Brink

39 Sicilian spewer
42 "Key"—1948 Bogart-Bacall film

43 Most severe
48 Beach time

50 Female deer

53 Northern creature

55 Quarty starter or tone

56 Rum cake

57 Gen. Bradley

58 Bridge charge

59 Vocal group

60 Is the right size

61 Bird's perch

62 Vivacity

63 Regarding

64 Annie Oakley

27 Joined, with "with"

74 "Joey" (1981)

75 "Boot" (1981)

76 "Key" (1948)

77 "Gaucho's milieu" (1948)

78 "Vocal group" (1948)

79 "Bridge charge" (1948)

80 "Rum cake" (1948)

81 "Gen. Bradley" (1948)

82 "Northern creature" (1948)

83 "Quarty starter or tone" (1948)

84 "Bird's perch" (1948)

85 "Vivacity" (1948)

86 "Regarding" (1948)

87 "Annie Oakley" (1948)

88 "Joined, with" (1948)

89 "With" (1948)

90 "Tip-top" (1948)

91 "Passover meals" (1948)

92 "Fragrant oil" (1948)

93 "Fatty oil" (1948)

94 "Fraternity letter" (1948)

95 "Turner or Louise" (1948)

96 "Tiptop" (1948)

97 "Passover meals" (1948)

98 "Fragrant oil" (1948)

99 "Fatty oil" (1948)

100 "Fraternity letter" (1948)

101 "Turner or Louise" (1948)

102 "Tiptop" (1948)

103 "Passover meals" (1948)

104 "Fragrant oil" (1948)

105 "Fatty oil" (1948)

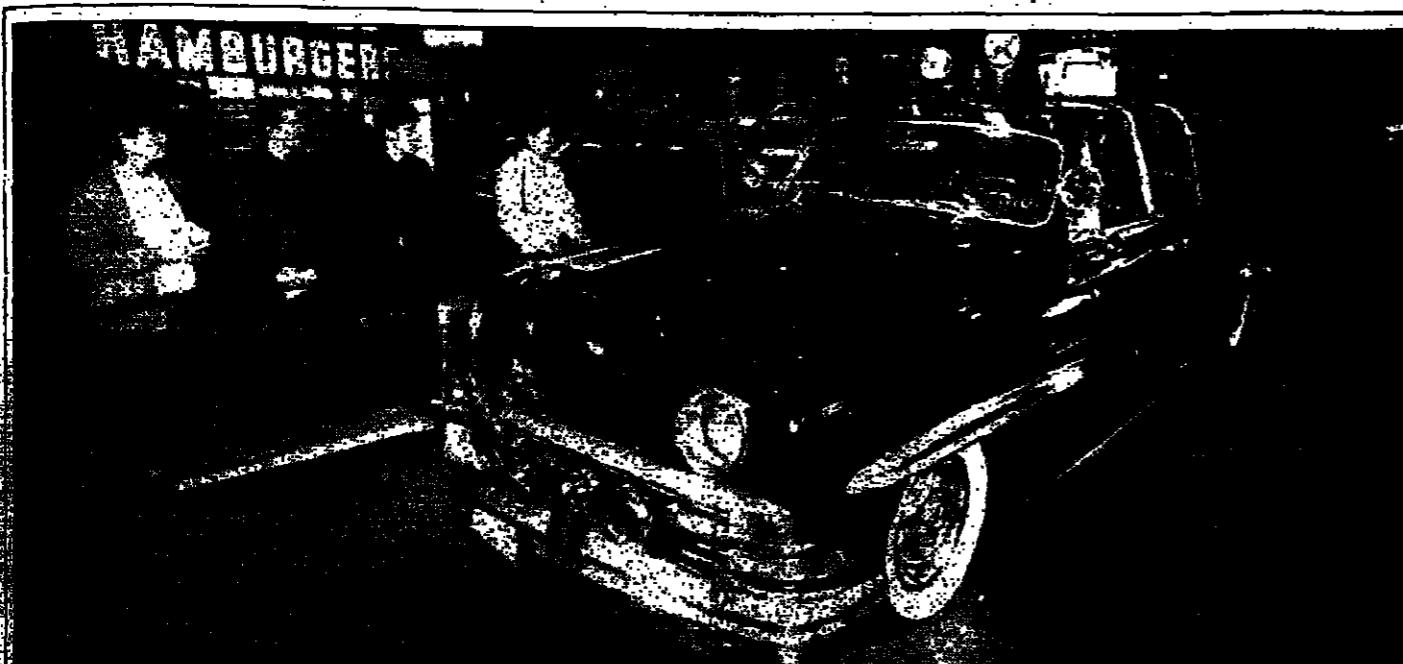
106 "Fraternity letter" (1948)

107 "Turner or Louise" (1948)

108 "Tiptop" (1948)

109 "Passover meals" (1948)

110 "Fragrant oil" (1948)



1950 bubbletop presidential Lincoln limousine first used by President Harry Truman.

Museum honours automobile culture

By Paul A. Eisenstein

DEARBORN, Mich. — The 20th century could rightly be called "the era of the automobile."

Few modern inventions have had such a profound impact on life, not only in America, but around the world as well. The car has shaped the way we live: how we work, where we stay while on the road — even how we eat.

Until now, those museums that have allotted space to the subject have eviscerated the soul of the automobile. Their displays consist of forever-silenced relics of the past — their gas tanks drained and batteries removed.

Small placards declare the year of manufacture and a few other technical details of interest, only to the more knowledgeable car buffs. These exhibits ignore the real significance of the automobile and its role in American culture.

But at least one exhibit attempts to put the role of the automobile as a cultural icon into perspective.

The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Mich., presents "The Automobile in American Life," a permanent exhibit replacing a decades-old classic display of historic automobiles. It serves those looking for the broader meaning of "on the

road," but at the same time won't disappoint the automotive enthusiast.

The stars of the show are still the cars, of course.

Among the 109 vehicles on display, there are more than enough antique Nashes, Packards, Hudsons, and Chevrolet Bel Airs.

The museum went to tremendous lengths to obtain some of the rarer vehicles on display, including a Chrysler Airflow truck, GM's 1959 Firebird III show car, and USA-001 — a Honda Accord that was the first Japanese car made in America.

The most difficult car to obtain was a classic American hot rod from the 1950s. After a seemingly endless search, museum curators just found what they were looking for: a chopped and channeled 1932 Ford roadster with a Chrysler engine that had been stored in a garage in California for 30 years.

What sets "The Automobile in American Life" apart from other automotive exhibits, however, is its vast and well-coordinated "display" of automotive trivia and memorabilia — everything from 75-year-old maps to a full-sized original McDonald's sign. Remember when there was only one golden arch, and burger sales were measured in the millions?

"Our old exhibit certainly met the needs of the car enthusiast," says Harold Skramstad, president of the museum.

"All you had to do was put the car out there, and they'd know what to look for, what story it would tell."

But that wasn't enough.

"We don't want to preach to the already converted," he adds. "We want to involve people in history."

Most of the exhibit is divided up by themes.

In one section, museum visitors see some of the many roadside signs that lured travellers of earlier generations in for a fast meal and a cup of coffee.

There's a classic silver diner, where the pie is always fresh, the coffee always hot, and the jukebox is always blaring out the latest songs from the Andrews sisters and Nat King Cole.

Elsewhere there's an early tourist camp, with a collection of campers and Airstream trailers. A drive-in theatre endlessly entertains visitors with a film on the car and American culture.

A 1940s Texaco station features a streamlined gasoline tanker and display ads for some of the technological wonders of the day, including Rhino-flex tyres — guaranteed never to go flat.

Other exhibits illustrate the painstaking process of making a car from idea to production.

The only chronological portion of the exhibit, the so-called "spine," begins by taking you back to the year 1896, to the birth of the American car industry with the Duryea, the country's first mass-produced automobile.

Moving along through the age of the automobile, you view not only the most representative vehicles of each period,

but a collection of magazines, ads, road signs, and other memorabilia. TV monitor run newsreel clips and industrial films documenting the life of past generations.

This is the first major change at the Ford Museum in more than 50 years, says Mr Skramstad.

"We're far more sophisticated today than in the past," he explains.

"We're living in the age of television. To communicate with people today, you have to use different techniques than you did in 1929 when the museum was dedicated by automotive pioneer, Henry Ford."

If there is a single message from this exhibit, says Skramstad, it's that "all our lives have been transformed by the automobile."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor

By Nassir Shirkhani

CAIRO, (Reuters) When the Shah of Iran died in Egypt a wandering refugee, Iranian monarchists hoped his tomb would inspire support for his son's bid to regain Tehran's Peacock Throne.

They hoped in vain.

Nearly eight years after his death in Cairo, the late Shah appears all but forgotten here, a relic of history in a country where royal tombs and monuments abound.

His grave in the Al Rifai mosque, near the citadel which overlooks the city, has become neither a tourist draw nor a focus of opposition to Iran's Islamic revolutionary government led by his nemesis, Khomeini.

There is no translation, so the inscription is a mystery to the few non-Iranians who visit the grave of the man who ruled Iran for 37 years before being toppled in 1979.

The Shah's death from cancer 18 months later was not simply that of another monarch. He was the last in a string of kings who had ruled Persia and modern Iran for 2,500 years.

His overthrow turned pro-Western Iran into a bitter enemy of the United States and its allies and boosted militant fundamentalism throughout the Islamic world.

Masane of the Thomas Cook company.

A dusty Iranian flag and a Persian rug decorate the carved green marble tomb, on which is written in Persian: "Here lies the body of the King of Kings, the king of Iran Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Aryamehr, born October 1919, died July 27, 1980."

There is no translation, so the inscription is a mystery to the few non-Iranians who visit the grave of the man who ruled Iran for 37 years before being toppled in 1979.

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"I just happened to be in the area and decided to visit the tomb. It was pure curiosity," said Jill Roberts, a 22-year-old American. "It never dawned on me that the grave signified the advent of a new era in Iranian history."

The Shah's son, Reza Pahlavi, nicknamed "the Mini-Shah" by some Iranians, is not known to visit the grave regularly.

He is cultivating a moderate image but prospects for his return to Iran as a successor to his father are as remote as ever.

Iranian opposition groups



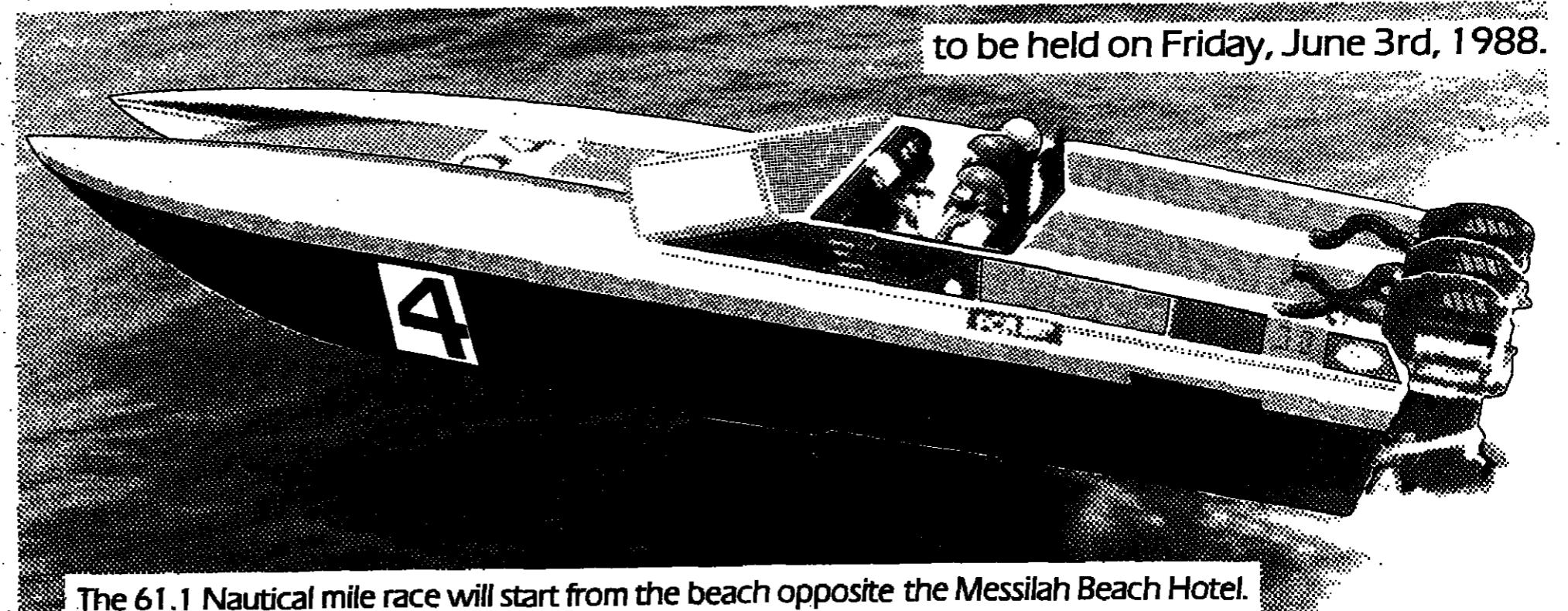
An Egyptian caretaker looks at the marble grave of the late Shah of Iran in Cairo's Al Rifai mosque.



The Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers, in cooperation with Messilah Beach Hotel are organising

KUWAIT'S 2ND BI-ANNUAL OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RACE

to be held on Friday, June 3rd, 1988.



The 61.1 Nautical mile race will start from the beach opposite the Messilah Beach Hotel.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Boats must be at least 18 ft in length.
- Engines must be outboard. If a single engine boat is used, an additional 10hp engine is advised. A maximum of two engines are allowed.
- Crew must have a minimum of two persons. All must be at least 18 years of age.
- Date June 3, 1988.
- The boat must be registered with the port authority of Kuwait, or if the boat is from outside Kuwait, with the authority for its port of origin.

Safety Requirements

- All participants must have the following equipment:
- A helmet and protective glasses.
- Lifejackets (inflatable life jackets not permitted).
- A marine compass (advanced electronic navigation equipment is prohibited).
- Anchor suitable for the size of the boat and a 25 metre (minimum) rope.
- At least three red safety flares.
- Boats must be adequately supplied with fuel sufficient to cover the race distance.
- Any battery or fuel tank leakages must be well-checked and repaired before the race.
- Each boat should carry either a telephone or a 2 way radio system.

Failure to comply with the above regulations and safety requirements will result in disqualification. Scrutineering will be held prior to the race, and competitors must display their safety equipment on the deck of the boat.

Bulletins detailing further requirements/information will be issued from time to time.

- Participation is open to all Gulf Citizens and residents who have lived in the Gulf for a minimum of six months.
- Last date for accepting entries is May 30, 1988.

Entry fee per person KD 15.000

Same day
Kuwait's 2nd Annual Powerboat



Official Race Hotel
Messilah Beach Hotel Kuwait



Sunoco



HONDA
CRX

ART AND ARCHITECTURE

British artist captures Afghanistan on canvas

Portraying rebels with a cause

By Sandra Maller

LONDON. (Reuter): Emma Sergeant, the daughter of a wealthy British financier, is emerging as one of Britain's most talented young painters with an exotic collection of portraits of Afghan rebel tribesmen in Pakistan.

"I was sitting in Australia, painting landscapes in the winter of 1984 and I thought 'I'd love to paint the Afghans. It just came to me out of the blue because they are such a noble people,'" Sergeant said in an interview.

Sergeant, 28, has been hailed by critics as the liveliest thing to happen to British portraiture in two decades.

The first went to Pakistan in 1984 to raise money for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef), painting Afghan guerrillas who have been fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government "since 1979. The pictures were sold in aid of Unicef.

She returned to Pakistan, where there are an estimated three million Afghan refugees, in 1986 — this time raising funds for a French charity, Médecins du Monde.

By Michela Wrong

PARIS. (Reuter): A Paris exhibition of Pablo Picasso's works has given the Spanish-born artist a posthumous chance to get his own back on critics who dismissed his last paintings as the senile dabblings of a sex-obsessed old man.

Exhibited in the southern French town of Avignon first in 1970 and then in 1973, a month after the painter died at the age of 91, the works unleashed a storm of protest.

Many art lovers dismissed the paintings as sickly and self indulgent, the last desperate outpourings of a man terrified of his approaching death.

Special scorn was reserved for a series of explicit erotic etchings showing painters coupling with their models — some said the graphic drawings of genital organs showed an obsession with sex typical of an old man worried by his fading virility.

Now, 15 years after his death, "The Last Picasso," a massive collection of paintings, drawings and sculptures at the modernistic Pompidou Centre, invites a reassessment.

The exhibition, which is on show in the French capital until May 16 before moving to the Tate gallery in London in June, numbers 93 paintings, 33 drawings, 60 etchings and six sculptures.

The display is a tribute to Picasso's phenomenal output in his later years as well as a fascinating record of his artistic and emotional development over his final quarter century.

The first paintings date from 1953, a traumatic turning point in Picasso's life when his lover Francoise Gilot left him along with their two children, and he began to question his allegiance to the Communist party.

In the years that followed Picasso was to find a new domestic happiness after meeting and marrying the beautiful Jacqueline Roque, 44 years his junior.

She modelled for many of his later paintings.

The exhibition is both a celebration of the importance of sex as a source of inspiration and exploration of the

now going on around me. "He was a very distinguished nice boy and he said: 'Actually I hate to tell you this but they can't decide whether you're a man or woman,'" she said.

Sergeant was given a studio by one of the guerrilla groups based close to the border with Afghanistan, and travelled among the tribes in the North West Frontier Province, painting about six portraits a day.

The Afghans look very Biblical. They have these wonderful turbans and hawkish features and a lot of them have these bright green eyes or blue eyes with blond hair," she said.

As she travelled among the tribes, Sergeant said the first day was always crucial one. "If you really mess up on your first day and produce a really horrible picture, they are shrewd enough to know that there was no likeness there at all."

She said that Afghans were always very friendly and cordial, though at times perhaps a bit bewildered by her presence.

"One day I was in a mujahedeen hotel and you sit on the table because there are no chairs. So I was squatting down on the table while a friend went to get some models and I asked my translator what was all this

men are gone they've been left in control of the family and have had to make provisions for themselves.

"I found them more cheeky this time. Men were a pushover but the women wanted money and the rate they were asking was the going rate for a nude model in London — three pounds (5.60 dollars) an hour," she said.

Sergeant has also painted African warriors during a "painting safari" with her mother.

Her latest exhibition, which opened in March in an art gallery on elegant Bond Street, is entitled "Faces From Four Continents."

Method

It consists of 104 paintings and sketches of Afghan tribesmen and African warriors, as well as portraits and landscapes from Britain and Australia, where she went "to get back to nature." Their prices ranged between \$500 and 700 dollars sterling (930 and 1,300 dollars).

Sergeant said she had devised a new method of mixing gouache and watercolour, which is more manageable when travelling than oils. "Using gouache or watercolour has introduced more



Emma Sergeant is emerging as one of Britain's most talented young painters with an exotic collection of portraits of Afghan rebel tribesmen and their families in Pakistan.

Slade Art School in London work.

Sergeant started painting when she was very young and says she was encouraged by both her mother, who is also a painter, and her father, "whom I suspect might be colour-blind because he used to frame everything I did."

She studied painting at the

the Himalayas this autumn.

"But you know what happens as soon as you start painting a landscape, suddenly everybody in the village wants to be painted so you're never allowed to get away and do your own private haystack.

They all come to pose in the same, desperately formal position."

Vitality or senility?
The Last Picasso' in Paris

Fifteen years after his death, a massive collection of paintings, drawings and sculptures at the Pompidou centre in Paris invite a reassessment of the artist's works, particularly his last paintings which many critics have dubbed as the senile dabblings of a sex-obsessed old man.

creative process itself — canvas after canvas show the artist confronting his naked model, paintbrush in hand.

The relationship is carried to its logical conclusion in the controversial series of etchings, where the painter and model are intimately entwined as lovers.

That vision seems to have haunted Picasso, spurring him to a frenetic surge of activity as he rushed to record his ideas and emotions on canvas in the little time that remained.

The signs of haste are there for all to see — the brushstrokes are crude and direct, the paint appears to have been literally slapped on to the canvases, many of which look almost unfinished, without background or superfluous detail.

Picasso was always renowned for his energy. "There is never a moment when you can say 'I have done a good day's

work and tomorrow is Sunday," he once commented on his work.

But he seems to have surpassed himself towards the end.

Experts estimate that the octogenarian artist produced more than 1,000 paintings, drawings and prints in his five last years — a picture on average every two and a half days.

Reaction to the works has been more positive this time around.

The influential *Le Monde* welcomed the vibrancy and energy of the exhibition and expressed surprise at how shocked it was by his work.

Critic Genevieve Breerette, concluding her appreciation of the show, said: "Twentieth century painting is born, lives and dies under the sign of the brothel. What fun."

There are also touches of deliberate vulgar humour. "The Piss'er," painted in 1965, shows a woman lifting her skirts and crouching to relieve herself on a beach, while in "The Kiss," painted in 1969, two passionate lovers seem to be trying to swallow each other's faces.

But the more sombre underlying theme is Picasso's growing struggle to come to terms with his own mortality.

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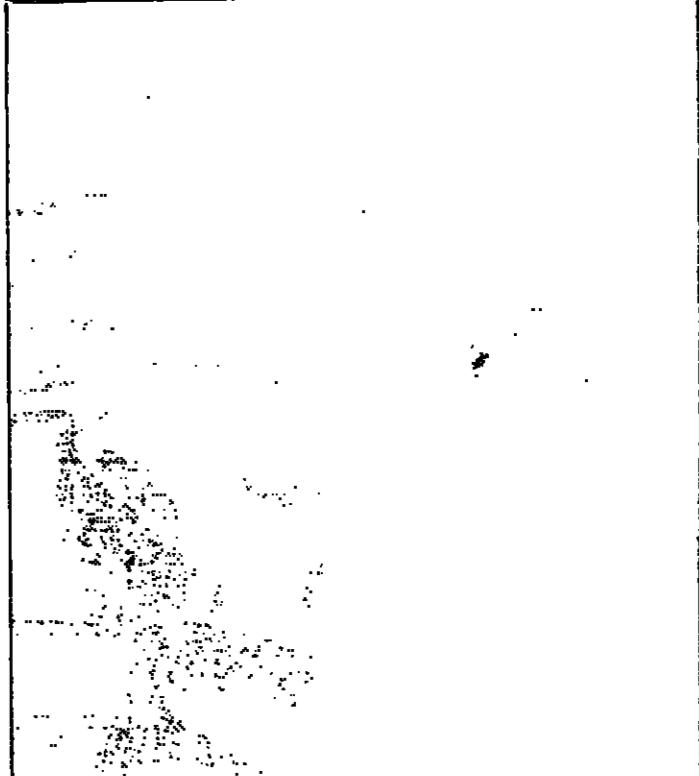
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MORE than 200,000 people took part in a demonstration on Saturday organised by three Italian unions. The demonstrators, who came from all over Italy in special trains, buses and ships were asking for a more effective government policy for the south. (Reuter wirephoto)



A SHI'ITE Muslim resident in a southern suburb of Beirut protests angrily at the destruction of her house during two days of ferocious battles between Amal militiamen and pro-Iranian fighters in which at least 65 people were killed. (Reuter wirephoto)



A YOUNG French supporter of Melanesian separatists of New Caledonia raises his arm during a gathering in Paris on Saturday to protest against French rule on the violence-torn South Pacific territory. French police had banned a pro-Kanak demonstration and the Kanak People's Support Group said it would hold this rally tomorrow. (Reuter wirephoto)



POPE JOHN PAUL II receives flowers from Uruguayan girls upon arrival in Montevideo on Saturday. The Pope begins his Latin American tour that will include visits to Bolivia, Peru and Paraguay. (Reuter wirephoto)



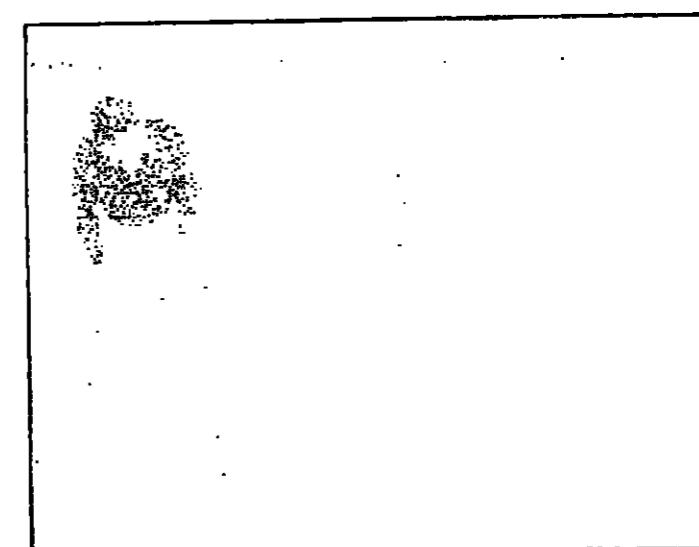
VINAY KHANDELWAL, 15, of New Delhi, carefully piles some of his collection of more than 1,700 different match boxes outside his home. Vinay's collection includes one of the original match boxes from 1855 amongst the massive pile which he hopes to enter in the Guinness Book of World Records. (Reuter wirephoto)



STRIKING students in Wroclaw, Poland, read a manifesto during a demonstration on Thursday. Students in several of Poland's largest universities have staged strikes in support of the strikes being held in factories like the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk. (Reuter wirephoto)



ENFIELD'S Robin Lewis ducks his head as Telford United's Harry Wiggins kicks high for the ball during FA Challenge Trophy at Wembley Stadium on Saturday. The game ended in a 0-0 tie after extra time. (Reuter wirephoto)



SPANISH police broke their own record for the largest cocaine haul in Europe when they seized 1,000 kilogrammes (2,200 pounds) of the drug in Irun, a town on the French border on Saturday. At least three people were detained in the raid. (Reuter wirephoto)



INVESTIGATORS examine the site where a plane carrying 36 passengers crashed into a cliff in Broenndesund, Norway. The plane burst into flames killing all the passengers. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH President, Francois Mitterrand, adjusts his shirt as Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac, (right) stands at attention during the 43rd anniversary commemorating victory in Europe. France voted yesterday in the second round of presidential elections with Socialist Party candidate Mitterrand facing conservative Chirac. (Reuter wirephoto)



ECUADOREAN presidential candidate Rodrigo Borja of the Democratic Left party is greeted by supporters on Saturday after he made an unannounced visit to Quito's colonial quarter the day before scheduled elections. Borja is the favourite in a close election. (Reuter wirephoto)

WINNING COLORS (right) wins the 114th running of the Kentucky Derby on Saturday. Finishing second is Forty Niner (left). (Reuter wirephoto)

CURRENCY & BUSINESS

Subdued mood seen in the markets

Slow times, low spirits on Wall Street

NEW YORK, May 8. (AP): The echoes of the stock-market crash have given way to an uneasy silence on Wall Street.

It seems traders and analysts say, as though just about everybody who wanted to get out of stocks after the collapse of the 1982-87 bull market has already done so.

At the same time, they add, hardly anyone is ready to buy except for a quick trade or in some "gimmick" transaction involving a dividend payment or a takeover rumour.

Development

To the casual observer, it may look as though a sense of calm and order has been restored to a marketplace that was badly shaken up not so long ago.

But it is hardly a welcome development to professionals in

the business who find themselves with time on their hands and, in many cases, wondering and worrying about the future of their jobs.

As unhappy as they may be about the situation, many market participants say they can readily understand it.

"It is not surprising investors are reluctant to take a stand at this current juncture," said Joanne Hill, a vice president who specialises in financial futures at Kidder, Peabody and Co.

"Recent economic developments with respect to the deficit, dollar and interest rate environment have given little cause for enthusiasm. However, there is also little conviction for further reducing equity exposures that for many institutions are already at the end of their typical ranges."

"This dilemma produces a

stalemate in which the market is left to draw its own flow from takeover and dividend-capture plays and from short-term traders."

Calm

Assuming this condition won't persist indefinitely, the natural question arises: Is it the calm before another storm, or a "breather" during which confidence in stocks can be restored gradually?

In times like this analysts often cite a long-standing investment maxim: "never sell a dull market short." But Edward Nicossi at Piper, Jaffray and Hopwood Inc. said he is not so sure that applies right now.

"We're not recommending aggressive short selling, a wholesale bailout of equities or anything of the sort," Nicossi said in a recent commentary.

"But we're darn right uncomfortable. The aggressive desire to own 'real' stocks just is not there."

It was notably absent in the past week, as the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials slumped 24.87 to 2,007.46.

Dropped

The New York Stock Exchange composite index dropped 2.45 to 145.88; the NASDAQ composite index for the over-the-counter market edged up .18 to 379.42; and the American Stock Exchange market value index lost 1.33 to 301.81.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 151.13 million shares a day, against 141.47 million the week before.

The general view of the economic outlook on the Street fits

right in with the subdued mood in the markets.

The Federal Reserve soon may feel compelled to tighten credit to combat increasing inflationary pressures. But if it is going to be forced to slow the economy to the point where the outlook for corporate profits worsens significantly.

Optimists

Some optimists, however, say that kind of thinking is misguided. "We think we are in a period of slow growth — neither a recession nor an inflation-triggering boom," said William Lefevre at Advest Inc.

"We think interest rates have risen on false fears of inflation and will soon turn downward, leading to higher bond and stock prices."

American financial managers expect growth for at least a year

NEW YORK, May 8. (AP): Corporate financial managers expect continued US economic growth for at least 12 more months, but many foresee a mild recession after that, according to a poll by a trade group.

The National Association of Accountants said 29 per cent of its 3,200 corporate controller members responded to the survey, which was conducted in the third week of April.

Factors

Of those, 65 per cent said they expected the American economy to be the same or better in one year, while 35 per cent said they foresaw worse conditions.

Asked if they predicted a recession in 1988, 36 per cent of the respondents said no.

But the balance shifted for 1989, with 65 per cent predicting a recession will occur sometime next year. Of that number, however, 78 per cent said they expected the downturn to be mild.

The Montvale, New Jersey-based accountants group, which has 85,000 members, asked the corporate controllers to rank the top three factors they felt would have the greatest impact on the economy through October.

Interest rates drew the greatest number of replies, at 62 per cent, followed by the federal budget deficit, at 59 per cent. The fluctuation and decline of the dollar was third, at 48 per cent, followed by the foreign trade deficit (38 per cent) and election campaigning (35 per cent).

Outlook

The controllers' short-term outlook on the stock market was cautiously bullish. With the Dow Jones industrial average hovering at about 2,000 at the time of the poll, 20 per cent said they expected it to be around the same level by June 30, and 51 per cent predicted a 2,100 or higher level. Twenty-nine per cent predicted a decline and 41 per cent expecting stability.

Rates

Half predicted higher short-term interest rates through the rest of 1988, while only 8 per cent foresaw a decline; 42 per cent said they expected rates to remain stable.

51 per cent saw higher long-term interest rates in the same period, vs. 8 per cent predicting a decline and 41 per cent expecting stability.

UK exports to Mideast drop

LONDON, May 8. (Kuna): The Middle East accounted for 6.9 per cent of total UK exports in 1987, as compared with 7.7 per cent in the previous year, according to a report published here yesterday.

The study compiled by the British Committee for Middle East Trade (Comet) showed that the most significant underlying factor was a further 4.5 per cent fall in UK exports of manufactured goods to the region.

This drop followed an overall 12 per cent increase in UK exports worldwide, the British government sponsored body, which advises ministers on matters affecting trade between the Middle East and the UK, said.

Top

In addition, Saudi Arabia moved for the first time into the 10th position on UK's top export markets, from the 12th in 1986, with exports up 31 per cent over 1986, touching almost £2 billion.

As such the kingdom represented a larger market for the UK in 1987 than Canada, Japan, Australia or Hong Kong by a significant margin, Comet said.

The other Middle East markets to rank in the top 50 were the UAE (27), Egypt (37), Iran (35), Iraq (38), Oman (41), Kuwait (43), Libya (44), and Jordan (50).

The second main feature of the 1987 export picture was the maintenance of the UK's trade surplus with the Middle East, despite slightly higher oil prices during the year.

The surplus for the year as a whole stood at £3,552 million (as compared with £3,525 million in 1986), a very important contribution to the UK's overall world trading position, the survey said.

Turning again to Saudi Arabia, Comet pointed out that Riyadh continued to "dominate our overall trading performance with the area."

Britain runs a trading surplus with the kingdom to the tune of £1,593.3 million, with British exports of high value items of machinery and equipment having increased substantially during the past two years as a result largely of aircraft and related deliveries for the Tornado contract.

Turkey to set up more technical training centres

TO meet its urgent need for well-trained technicians and skilled manpower, Turkey will invest \$165.8 million in a technical education project. The World Bank is supporting the project with a loan of \$115.8 million.

To maintain the success of its export drive, Turkey has to increase the number of well-trained technicians and other skilled technical workers for industry.

The government also needs more trained staff in the tourism sector, an increasingly important source of foreign exchange earnings for the country. The project is designed to meet these needs.

Twenty existing vocational schools will be converted into technical training centers. Four facilities for training instructors of technical and vocational education will be upgraded and expanded to meet an expected shortage of more than 13,400 teachers by 1991.

Training programmes at five tourism training centres will be upgraded and expanded, and five new centres will be established.

Nigeria welcomes private investment in oil industry

LAGOS, May 8. (Opeca): One of the objectives of Nigeria's structural adjustment programme is to attract foreign investments in all sectors of the economy for the sake of economic diversification.

While it is necessary to wean away the economy from its dependence on oil, there is growing recognition that the oil sector could be further diversified.

With the recent commissioning of phase of the petrochemical plants in Kaduna and Elsan, three primary raw materials — linear alkyl benzene, carbon black and propylene — are now available for processing by downstream fabricators.

Petrochemicals is not the only industry where private investors have been invited to participate by NNPC, which was recently commercialised and restructured to improve its effectiveness and efficiency.

Private-sector participation is especially welcome in upstream exploration and downstream processing, distribution and marketing.

Investments in upstream activities in 1970 were estimated at \$24 million, 243 million in 1980, 343 million in 1982 and 296

million in 1985.

NNPC believes that despite what appears to be a high level of investment, "the surface has just barely been scratched." Officials say that out of about 300,000 sq km of the country's basinal areas, only 60,000 sq km, or about 20 per cent, is currently under active exploration. This does not include other offshore areas above the 100-metre water depth mark and tar sand deposits in the Western belt of the country.

Supply

In the service sector, foreign-based companies could develop local substitutes for items like medium pressure valves, pumps, shallow drilling equipment, drilling mud, bits, fittings and drilling cement. Construction, installation, maintenance, pipelaying and transportation support services also offer investment opportunities in the service sector.

Between 1988 and 1992, NNPC plans to spend about \$1.30 billion to boost the domestic supply of LPG linked to this project is the installation of an LPG Memrox unit at the Kaduna refinery.

He feels that joint-venture partners will be required to finance phase II of the project, which he describes as a "grassroots petrochemicals complex, primarily intended to satisfy the growing

private investors.

Investments in upstream activities in 1970 were estimated at \$24 million, 243 million in 1980, 343 million in 1982 and 296

Hotels sign new rate pact



From right to left (front row) Abdul Amir Maafar, Khalid Al Shaya, Ghazi Fahd Alnafisi, Ali Al Ghanim Al Jaber, Jawad Bu Khamsin, Jameel Al-Sane; and (standing) Mohamed Naji (Association Secretary), Werner Kuendig, Ghassan Rahwani, Fahed Abu Shaar, Klaus Martensen, Jean Abu Nahra, Moine Kandil.

THE Owners of the deluxe hotels in Kuwait have joined together under one umbrella and created a landmark by signing a new "one rate" agreement. This agreement was formulated after extensive research and field study into the current local and international market situation bearing in mind the feedback from the customers frequenting the deluxe hotels.

The agreement was signed last week at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel and was attended by the owners and general managers of the six deluxe hotels — SAS, Hilton, Sheraton, Holiday Inn, Meridien and the Kuwait Regency Palace. According to Ramu Deora, FIEO President, the Finance Minister, N.D. Tiwari, and Secretaries of Commerce and Finance Ministries, who were present at the meeting, agreed with the spirit of the suggestion and promised to look into the details.

WASHINGTON, May 8. (Xinhua): The US government has been trying to "deregulate" the biotechnology industry in order to promote the international competitiveness of American companies.

Biotechnology, the use of recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid techniques, cell fusion and novel bioprocessing technologies called gene splicing, is one of the few fields where the United States retains its lead. But even in this area, international competitors are posing growing challenges.

The concept was proposed by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations and brainstormed at a recent meeting of chambers of commerce, export promotion councils and commodity boards. According to Ramu Deora, FIEO President, the Finance Minister, N.D. Tiwari, and Secretaries of Commerce and Finance Ministries, who were present at the meeting, agreed with the spirit of the suggestion and promised to look into the details.

also talk about the creation of monsters, such as cows the size of elephants.

Last February, the US patent and trademarks office ruled in favour of issuing patents for created animals and plants. The move is the first of its kind designed to boost the profitability of biotechnology research.

This week, a congressional research organisation, in a published finding, said that the "risks associated with small-scale field tests of biogeneralised organisms are minimal." The report will help allow biotech companies to carry out field tests on artificially created organisms.

Comprehensive

The Washington Post called the congressional finding a "most comprehensive" work that "could prove pivotal in the efforts of agricultural biotechnology companies to loosen federal regulations that so far have hampered the pace of the industry's research and development."

Because of its nature, biotechnology has been opposed as anti-nature and a threat to human life. Some people worry that man-made organisms, once released into the environment, may prove to be beyond control. There is

According to congressional analysts, Kathi Hanna, US policymakers are interested in biotechnology because of its potential for improving health, food production and environmental quality. She also pointed out that the industry is seen as having a great potential for heightening US international economic competitiveness.

Speaking to a recent conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a centre for biotechnology research and industries, she said biotechnology may be able to provide the world with products never before available, products that are currently in short supply, products that use less costly materials or production methods.

Another issue is whether the federal government should provide more funds for research in this field. Japanese and Western European countries strongly subsidise their biotechnological studies. It was estimated that 12 federal agencies spent over \$2 billion to

support biotech research during the last fiscal year. This is slightly more than was privately invested in the same period.

Some of the well-known government funded biotechnology projects are sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the defence department, and the agricultural department.

Federally funded projects have attracted private contractors and provided the condition for the mushrooming of hundreds of small biotech firms. In addition to the federal government, state governments are also looking to the new technology to rejuvenate local economies.

California has the largest concentration of biotechnology firms, largely because of the concentration there of universities, research institutions and highly skilled labour.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P. CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-NATIONAL BANK	0.860	0.860	0.860	0.860	155000	7
-GULF BANK	0.345	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.236	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AH.LI BANK	0.285	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-B.K.N.E	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.R.E.B	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-BURGAN BANK	0.240	0.238	0.238	0.238	100000	3
-K.F.HOUSE	0.405	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Exchange Service
Market
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8.30 to 12 noon; 7.30 to 9.30 pm

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Pakistan Rupee 10.825
Philippines Peso 13.123
Sterling Pound 27.50
Dhow Money Market Fund Bid USD 12.55
Offer USD 12.54

The Islamic Fund Bid USD 9.07
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ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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KUWAIT City, behind GPO above Bulbul Supermarket. Accommodation in a CAC flat from 15th May for an Indian bachelor to share with another bachelor. Tele. Vernekar, 2435950/21, 8.30am - 2.30pm. (AT2-42153-3)

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FARWANIYA, behind Holiday Inn. One room for Goans only, single or sharing. Tele. 2401827, 8.30am - 1.30 pm & 2454922, from 9am - 11 pm. (AT2-42181-3)

SALMIYA, accommodation with all necessary requirements including telephone for a couple, working girl or bachelor to share with an Indian family. Tele. VJ, 5610637, 8 am onwards. (AT1-42166-2)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, opp. Khalifa Building, No.110, accommodation for a family only. Tele. Shaikh MD. Yousuf, 2445715, 2406354, 8.30 am - 1.30 pm, 8 - 11 pm. (AT3-42207-3)

FARWANIYA, Main Street, accommodation for a Goan/Mangalorean bachelor to share with another bachelor with a Goan family. Tele. 4744150, after 2pm. (AT2-42184-2)

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2 WEGA speakers, 100 watts each. Tele Nabil, am: 5312700 ext 2187; pm: 5336310. (AT1-42161-3)

Boats

FISHING boat, 16 foot, good body, outboard engine, needs repair. KD700 or best offer. Tele Javed, 2546022, 2546213, 254613. 8 am - 2 pm. (AT1-42153-2)

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AMERICAN breakfast bar, 8 feet long with 5 quality Italian bar stools with backs. Smoked glass top, bar, refrigerator and corner shelf. KD145. Tele. 3943473, 2.30 - 7 pm. (AT2-42187-3)

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TOYOTA Corolla GT-16 valve, 1986 model, blue, 40,000 kms. One owner from new. Excellent condition, KD2200. Tele. Alex, 2452880 daytime, 5337730 evenings. (AT3-42201-3)

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MGB Roadster, classic sports car, white 1967 H/S top C.W.W. red 1969 overdrive S top, 12 months MOT, in very good original condition. KD1250. Tele Joe, 4819736, 8.30 am - 1 pm. 9021311, 2 - 7 pm. (AT1-42158-3)

AUDI 80 C.D. 1983 model, white, 4 door fully automatic 80,000 kms maintained at agents, 12 months insurance in excellent condition. KD1195 cash. Tele. Ashlan, 4871897, anytime (answer phone). (AT2-42183-2)

MITSUBISHI L300, 86 model 7 seater, 50,000 kms, white, manual with AC in showroom condition. Tele. Asif, 2550847. (AT1-42151-3)

BLAZER 4x4 1980, fully automatic, new engine by Al Ghanim March 87, new gear box 3 months, all in very good condition, Roadstar stereo, KD1,450 cash. Tele. Mike, 5339308, anytime to 11 pm. (AT3-42200-3)

MAZDA 323, 1981 model, red, 61,000 kms, manual, 2 door hatchback in excellent condition KD425, cash. Tele. Ashlan, 4878197, anytime (answer phone). (AT1-42155-3)

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FOR RENT Villas, half villas, buildings and flats with or without swimming pool.

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(AT2-42192-3)

URGENTLY required good home for Siamese cat. Free. Tele. Neale, 5717652/4841296. (AT2-42194-3)

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(AT2-42190-3)

MAID required, Filipino, for an English family to live in. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Tele. 4895816, 12.30 - 3 pm. (AT1-42177-3)

MAID required preferably Sri Lankan or Indian for a Goan family in Kuwait City. Must have transferable residence. Tele. 2421454, 2 pm onwards. (AT1-42149-3)

SECOND hand Mercedes 190 or 190E, model between 1983-1985, automatic, airconditioned and in excellent working condition. Tele. Eng. Abbas, 4742835, 4718478. (AT3-42202-2)

MAID required, Filipino, for a small family to live in. Must have a transferable residence. Tele. Assemto, 2417180 ext. 229. (AT3-42199-3)

MAID required, Filipino or any nationality for a family. Must have a transferable residence. Tele. Mr. Salem, 4743484. (AT3-42196-3)

MAID required immediately, part time, 3 days a week in the afternoon. Tele. 5615913, 2 - 8 pm. (AT1-42178-3)

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LASER, single handed sailing dinghy. Good price given for the right boat. Tele. Mr. B Richardson, 2423747. (AT2-42189-3)

Mishri Villa, 4 bedrooms with carpet and curtains. KD 650. Suria: Villa with swimming pool, KD 800. 4 bedrooms, KD 550. Salim: Villa, 5 bedrooms with swimming pool, KD 800. Villa for ambassador, KD 1800 plus many villas and flats available in all areas in Kuwait.

Qatar Real Estate Tel: 2408592, 2406583

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Mishri Villa, 4 bedrooms with carpet and curtains. KD 650.

Suria: Villa with swimming pool, KD 800. 4 bedrooms, KD 550.

Salim: Villa, 5 bedrooms with swimming pool, KD 800.

Villa for ambassador, KD 1800 plus many villas and flats available in all areas in Kuwait.

Contact: 4748877/4731004. Timings — 8.00 am - 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm - 8.00 pm. Al Mawasim Trdg.

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A young energetic man, with wide experience in the field of public relations and related services in the local market.

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Detailed CV is available on request.

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in Al Rayyan Residential Complex

Standings

ENGLISH and Scottish League soccer in brief after matches played on Saturday (tablets under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

English Division One						
Brentford	39	26	11	2	86	23
Manchester U.	39	22	12	7	69	37
Nottingham Forest	38	20	11	7	65	37
Everton	40	19	13	8	53	27
QPR	40	19	12	10	48	38
Arsenal	40	18	12	10	58	39
Wimbledon	39	19	12	10	51	45
Newcastle	40	14	13	5	55	36
Sheffield Wed.	40	15	14	13	46	52
Southampton	37	14	8	15	52	53
Tottenham	40	12	11	7	58	47
Norwich	40	12	9	19	40	52
Derby	40	10	13	7	35	43
West Ham	40	9	15	16	40	52
Charlton	40	9	15	16	38	52
Leeds	40	9	15	16	38	52
Walsall	40	7	11	22	27	51
Watford	40	6	13	21	44	80

English Division Two (Final table)						
Millwall	44	25	7	12	72	52
Aston Villa	44	23	10	7	69	48
Middlesbrough	44	22	10	6	63	36
Bradford	44	22	11	7	54	47
Blackburn	44	21	9	8	58	57
Crystal P.	44	22	9	13	56	57
Leeds	44	19	12	13	61	51
Walsall	44	19	8	10	50	46
Manchester C.	44	18	11	15	72	64
Oldham	44	17	11	16	50	57
Stoke	44	16	11	17	73	60
Swindon	44	16	11	17	62	59
Leicester	44	15	12	17	61	57
Barnsley	44	15	12	17	61	57
Hull	44	14	12	17	61	57
Plymouth	44	13	10	12	56	49
Bournemouth	44	13	10	12	56	49
Shrewsbury	44	11	16	17	42	54
Birmingham	44	11	15	18	41	64
West Brom	44	13	11	21	50	69
Sheffield U.	44	13	7	24	45	74
Woking	44	10	12	17	41	52
Walsallfield	44	8	10	21	40	71

English Division Three (Final table)						
Sunderland	46	27	12	7	92	48
Brighton	46	23	15	8	69	47
Walsall	46	23	13	10	68	50
Walsall County	46	23	13	10	68	50
Southend	46	21	12	7	77	62
Wigan	46	18	9	10	51	75
Portsmouth	46	20	12	10	61	72
Sheffield R.	46	18	12	10	68	56
Wimbledon	46	19	9	18	69	66
Southend	46	17	14	15	71	62
Walsall	46	16	14	15	53	59
Bury	46	14	15	12	77	61
Chester	46	14	15	12	61	59
Preston	46	15	13	18	48	59
Southend	46	15	10	12	50	55
Manfield	46	15	10	12	50	55
Aldershot	46	15	8	23	54	74
Rotherham	46	12	16	18	50	65
Grimbsy	46	12	14	20	48	58
York	46	8	9	29	48	91
Doncaster	46	8	9	29	40	84

English Division Four (Final table)						
Wolves	46	27	7	10	82	43
Cardiff	46	24	13	9	66	41
Bolton	46	22	12	12	66	42
Scunthorpe	46	20	17	7	56	57
Torquay	46	21	14	11	68	41
Swindon	46	10	12	17	53	70
Peterborough	46	10	10	12	53	57
Levton O.	46	19	12	10	63	69
Colchester	46	19	10	12	57	67
Burnley	46	20	7	19	57	62
Wrexham	46	20	6	20	69	58
Scarborough	46	17	14	20	46	65
Dartington	46	17	14	19	46	65
Walsall	46	17	14	19	46	65
Walsall	46	15	14	17	50	59
Harlepool	46	15	14	17	50	59
Crews	46	13	19	14	57	53
Halifax	46	14	14	18	54	53
Hereford	46	14	12	20	41	54
Stockport	46	14	12	20	47	51
Bromley	46	11	12	20	47	76
Carlisle	46	12	8	26	57	86
Newport	46	6	7	33	35	105

Scottish Premier Division (Final table)						
Hamilton	44	22	12	10	67	39
Meadowbank	44	20	12	10	71	53
Clydebank	44	21	17	6	26	59
Dundee U.	46	16	15	12	54	47
Ribernair	44	19	13	12	41	43
Dundee	44	17	7	20	70	64
Marischal	44	19	12	11	57	54
Falkirk	44	10	11	23	41	75
Blantyre	44	8	10	24	41	84
Merton	44	3	10	21	77	106

Scottish Division One (Final table)						
Ayr	39	27	9	5	74	31
St Johnstone	39	25	9	5	74	29
Queen's Park	39	21	9	6	64	45
Partick Thistle	39	18	10	11	60	51
Stirling	39	15	13	11	51	47
E. Stirling	39	16	8	15	50	46
Montrose	39	12	11	16	45	51
Arbroath	39	10	14	15	54	66
Stenhousemuir	39	12	9	18	49	58
Alloa	39	10	13	16	51	63
Stranraer	39	6	4	25	32	77
Stranraer	39	4	8	27	34	84

Scottish Division Two (Final table)						

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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Italian Open

ROME, May 8. (AP): Ivan Lendl, Mats Wilander and Boris Becker are the top three seeds in the \$825,000 Italian Open men's tennis championships starting tomorrow, organisers said today. With Yannick Noah as the fourth seed, the clay court tournament will have four of the world's top 10 players in its 64-man field.

Bavarian tennis

MUNICH, West Germany, May 8. (Reuter): Jonas B. Svensson of Sweden, regained his taste for West German tournament tennis yesterday by beating Spanish favourite Emilio Sanchez 6-7 6-1 6-4 in the semifinals of the \$202,000 Bavarian Championships.

LPGA golf

PORPSMOUTH, Va., May 8. (Reuter): American Sherri Turner's four-under-par 32 on the front nine helped her take a one-stroke lead after the second round of the \$300,000 Portsmouth Classic LPGA golf tournament yesterday.

Belgian League

BRUSSELS, May 8. (Reuter): Leaders Club Bruges and nearest rivals Mechelen were both held to 1-1 away draws by modest opponents in the Belgian League yesterday. With two more games to go, Bruges hold a three-point lead over European Cup winners' Cup finalists Mechelen.

W. German player

BONN, May 8. (Reuter): West German international midfielder Olaf Thon will sign a deal next Wednesday to leave his struggling team Schalke and join Bayern Munich. Schalke club president Guenter Siebert said yesterday.

Gymnast injured

TOKYO, May 8. (AP): A 15-year-old American gymnast remained in critical condition yesterday, paralysed and unable to breathe normally. Julissa Gomez suffered a broken neck on Thursday when she fell during warm-ups, doing a round-off entry in the vault in an international tournament.

Title fight

BANGKOK, May 8. (UPI): World Boxing Association bantamweight champion Wilfredo Vasquez of Puerto Rico and Thai challenger Khaoor Galaxy both expect to win tomorrow night's title fight here.

Pole position

SILVERSTONE, England, May 8. (Reuter): Frenchman Jean-Louis Schlesser put the Mercedes team in pole position for the fourth successive time this season in yesterday's practice for today's Silverstone 1,000 kms World Sportscar Championship race.

World record

CARDIFF, May 8. (Reuter): A world record crowd for a club match saw Llanelli win the Welsh Cup Rugby Union final for a record sixth time when they beat Neath 28-13 yesterday. An estimated attendance of more than 50,000 surpassed the 48,000 who watched Cardiff play Newport in 1951.

Mini-marathon

NEW YORK, May 8. (AP): Joan Benoit Samuelson, the 1984 Olympic marathon gold medalist, has entered the 17th Annual L'Eggs mini-marathon, scheduled for Central Park on June 4, race organisers announced yesterday.

Volleyball event to restart on May 17

THE Jimmy George Memorial Trophy volleyball tournament, organised by Kuwait Malayalam Samajam and sponsored by Vandana Weekly, will restart on May 17, the organisers announced yesterday.

The organisers, who had originally scheduled the matches to be held from May 20 after a break during the holy month of Ramadan, have now decided to complete the matches before the schools close for the summer vacation.

The matches will be held on the ground located behind the Fahad Cinema. The revised schedule is as follows:

May 17: 6.30 am — Vandana Sports vs Young School Boys; 7.30 am — Al Jalihi Food Centre vs Sports Lovers Club; 8.30 am — Royal Sporting vs Al Utman Catering.

May 20: 6.30 am — Fernandez Brothers vs Camy Sports Club; 7.30 am — Kerala Sports 'B' vs winners of Vandana Sports and Young School boys.

May 27: 6.30 am — semifinals; 7.30 am — semifinals; June 3: 7.30 am — Finals.

W.INDIES AMASS 394 FOR SEVEN AGAINST SUSSEX

Richards and Harper hit tons

HOVE, England, May 8. (Reuter): Viv Richards, scoring the 98th century of his career in masterly style, and Roger Harper, giving a reminder of his considerable batting talent with 133 not out, rescued West Indies in their opening tour match yesterday.

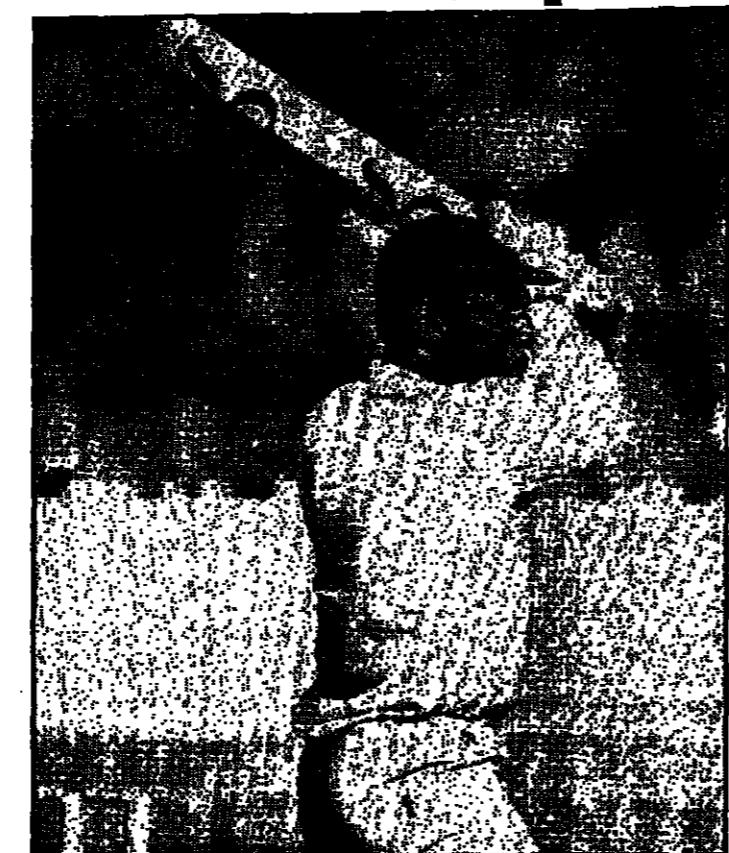
Richards, who made 128, and all-rounder Harper shared a sixth-wicket partnership of 227 against Sussex after West Indies were reduced to 94 for five by the county's fledgling attack on a greenish pitch.

Trouble

A burst of three for 33 from seamer Rodney Bunting, playing in only his second first-class match, plunged the West Indians into trouble after they were put in, but Richards and Harper tilted the balance so emphatically that the touring side were 394 for seven at the close of the opening day of the three-day game.

Richards, who reached three figures in 128 deliveries, is likely during the tour to become only the fourth non-English player to score a hundred centuries, joining Sir Donald Bradman, Glenn Turner and Zaheer Abbas.

Harper, who also bowls off-spin and seeks to re-establish his Test place after being overlooked for the recent series against Pakistan in the Caribbean, completed his century from 197 balls.



Richards: 98th century

Sussex, despite fielding four uncapped bowlers, seized the initiative in the morning when Bunting had Gordon Greenidge caught behind from an outswinger for 15 and dismissed Richie Richardson for 20 with the aid of a third slip catch.

Joyner-Kersee sets year's best

MODESTO, Calif., May 8. (Reuter): American world-record holder Jackie Joyner-Kersee set the fastest time in the world this year to win the women's 100-metre hurdles in 12.7 seconds yesterday at the rainy Modesto Invitational athletics meeting.

Scheduled

American Carl Lewis, winner of four gold medals in the 1984 Olympics, had been scheduled to race in the men's 100 metres. But he had run a 10.05-second 100-metre race on Wednesday, and said yesterday that his good time last week made it unnecessary to run the same event just three days later.

He was committed to appear at this meet, so he opted to

anchor the Santa Monica Track Club men's 800-metre relay team.

Lewis took the baton with a lead and guided his relay team, which included American Olympians Mark Witherspoon, Harvey Glance and Cletus Brown, to an easy victory.

Without Lewis, Witherspoon won the 100 metres in 10.10 seconds. Kirk Baptiste of the United States was second at the same time, but the photo finish showed Witherspoon touched the tape first.

1984 Olympic gold medallist Roger Kingdom of the United States won the men's 110-metre hurdles in 13.37 seconds.

Nuggets beat Supersonics for playoffs

DENVER, May 8. (AP): In four playoff games, the Seattle SuperSonics shot .53 per cent from the floor and didn't fall below 50 per cent, but Denver Nuggets coach Doug Moe figured the hot-shooting had to end sometime.

It finally did yesterday. Shots that had gone swish suddenly went clank, and the Nuggets raced away with a 115-96 victory to advance to the second round of the NBA playoffs.

The Nuggets, winning the first-round series three games to two, will play host to the Dallas Mavericks Tuesday night in the opener of a best-of-seven series. Game 2 will be Thursday night also in Denver.

"Seattle had played so good and had shot so well that I hoped one game they'd crack shooting-wise," Moe said. "You knew they had to have one 'off' game."

Date Ellis and Xavier McDaniel, who averaged a combined 47 points during the regular season, scored only 12 and six points, respectively. Ellis was 4-for-9 from the field and McDaniel 2-for-9.

Nantes hold Monaco

PARIS, May 8. (Reuter): Monaco recovered from an early setback at Nantes when Jean-Marc Ferrat equalised for a 1-1 draw that kept them five points clear at the top of the French soccer First Division yesterday.

Second-placed Bordeaux were unable to make up ground because they drew 1-1 at Saint-Etienne.

Matra Racing Paris, without a win in eight matches, dropped to fourth behind Marseille after drawing 0-0 at home to Cannes. Marseille beat Niort 1-0 on

Friday and lifted their hopes of a UEFA Cup place next season.

Ninth-placed Nantes went directly onto the attack and were rewarded with a goal by Michel Der Zakarian in the second minute. Monaco equalised 13 minutes later with a lob from Ferrat.

Bordeaux held off a challenge from sixth-placed Saint-Etienne, who went ahead through Patrice Ferri in the 75th minute. Bordeaux's veteran international Rene Girard snatched an 81st-minute equaliser.

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Bordeaux held off a challenge from sixth-placed Saint-Etienne, who went ahead through Patrice Ferri in the 75th minute. Bordeaux's veteran international Rene Girard snatched an 81st-minute equaliser.

In the opening minutes Uerdingen midfielder Rudi Bommer twice shot narrowly wide and a third effort was stopped only by the desperate intervention of defender Andreas Breune.

Werder Bremen, also lacking motivation after wrapping up the title, lost 2-0 at Cologne.

Uerdingen, fighting to avoid relegation, had far more to play for and lost no time in putting Bayern under pressure.

In the opening minutes Dub Myers broke the four-minute barrier in the Oregon Twilight Mile for the fifth time in his career, winning in 3:57.44. Mike Blackmore also broke the four-minute barrier for the fifth time in the meet, finishing in 3:57.46.

Brazilian Jose Barboza won the 800 metres in 1:46.95.

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Brazilian Jose Barboza won the 800 metres in 1:46.95.

"My objective was to run easy and relaxed," Slaney said. "I got a cramp in my calf last week, but I ran tonight with no twinges of pain. I hope this means the start of a good spring for me."

Stile

Brazilian 800 metres Olympic champion Joaquin Cruz, also opened his 1988 season in winning style, capturing the 1,500 metres in 3:41.47.

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"It was the eighth ace of my career," said Davis, who had accepted the advice of his caddie on the tee and taken a club less than three-iron he had selected.

"I completely lost my concentration," he said.

In the End of the Year Tournament, organised by Nahil Akel, Sandra Turvey and Elly Lammer, ended their season on a high note by taking the top honours.

Randa Finan also achieved good results throughout the year to finish third in the Players of the Year list. Sonia Banayan, Randa's partner took the fourth position. Jamila Akel, Nahil's mother, made sure that there were at least two of the same family in the top five by taking the fifth position.

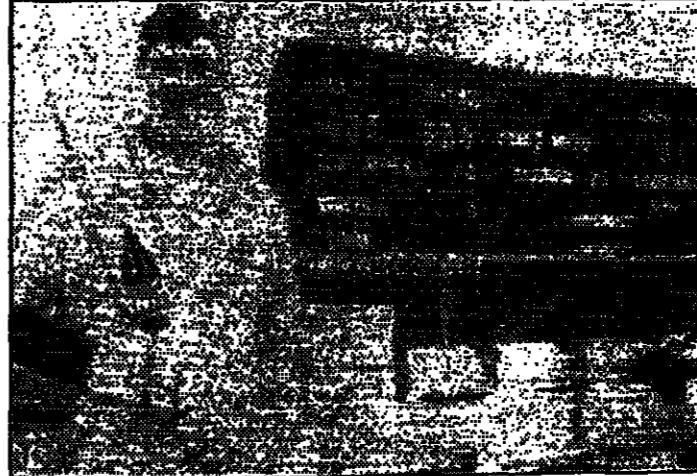
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Sonia Banayan and Randa Finan finished in second place while Jamila Akel and Juliette Mushawar were third.

Nahil Akel and Lollo Murthwaite made sure that they did well in the last tournament of the season by taking fourth place. Hala Hourani and Rima Ayad took the fifth position.

Ghada Sarraf and Salwa Hayek shared the sixth place with Lyn Edwards and Pearl Leyva.



Hicks stands near the scoreboard after scoring a record-breaking 405 on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Defreitas, Agnew and Small continue to press for England places

LONDON, May 8. (Reuter): The same combination accounted for Carl Hooper for seven, while Desmond Haynes, having made 36 from 34 overs, edged paceman Andy Babbington and was caught at the wicket.

Gus Logie was lbw for three to leg-spinner Andy Clarke, who was shortly afterwards brought down to earth as Richards struck him for two straight sixes.

The West Indian captain continued to answer his team's plights on a challenging note, lashing two more sixes off the wrist spinner, and also hitting 15 fours in his innings of 166 balls.

Harper, who survived a chance to wicketkeep Ian Gould off Clarke when he had made 45, scored 13 fours on his way to three figures.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES vs SUSSEX

G. Greenidge c Gould b Bunting 15
D. Haynes c Gould b Bunting 36
R. Richards c Parker b Bunting 20
C. Hooper c Parker b Bunting 7
A. Logie bw b Clarke 3
V. Richards c A. Wells b Pringle 128
R. Harper not out 133
W. Bunting c Clarke b C. Wells 10
D. Williamson 18
Extras (b-8 lb-4 w-6 nb-6) 24
Total (for seven wickets) 394
Fall of wickets: 1-22 2-54 3-74 4-74
To bat: C. Ambrose, J. Bishop,
Sussex: P. Parker (captain), A.
Green, R. Ali Khan, C. Wells, A.
Wells, N. Lebans, I. Gould, M. Pringle,
A. Clarke, R. Bunting, A. Bunting.

spell. He returned to break the only stand of substance — 73 for the fourth wicket between Monte Lynch (73) and David Ward — in a spell of two for 11.

Dennis Lillee is marking his first appearance in county cricket for Northamptonshire, with glimpses of his incomparable form, although his ex-Australian teammate Terry Alderman has taken the honours for the opposition.

Alderman, after two successful seasons with Kent, is giving equal value for Gloucestershire. He took four for 52 in each innings against Northants, who were 103 for two at the close in their quest for 251 to win.

Another Australian making an early-season impact is current Test captain Allan Border, who completed an unbeaten 169 which helped Essex to a first innings lead of 152 over Derbyshire at Chesterfield.

Defreitas was the main destroyer for Leicestershire, who routed Kent for 128 at Leicester to win by an innings and 47 runs. The fast-medium bowler took four for 52 after signing a new two-year county contract in the morning.

Captured

Agnew, seeking to add to the three England caps he won from 1984-85, captured three for 45 to finish with match figures of nine for 82.

West Indian-born Small, who was plagued by injury problems last season, completed a personal best match return of 19 for 84 to qualify for the US Olympic trials.

"I ran extra conservatively tonight and I felt I could go faster if I wanted to," Slaney said after she set a meet record of 4:09.14. "The important thing was to run with no pain, which I did."

Running on her home track at Hayward Field, Slaney took off to her customary early lead and was in front all the way, defeating Claudette Groenendaal, who clocked 4:11.84.

The time qualities Slaney, who has been sidelined by a pregnancy and then a series of injuries, for the Olympic trials in July in Indianapolis.

"My objective was to run easy and relaxed," Slaney said. "I got a cramp in my calf